

ON SATURDAY THE 16th

We will give

A Post Card Booklet

To each Family

Who purchase one 10c loaf or two 5c loaves
of Model Bread

This booklet is worth the price of the loaf but we are going to do it in order to have a few more families try Model Bread, and on Saturday the 23rd we will give a Handsome Art Calendar, with no advertising on it, with each twenty-five cent purchase of Christmas Candles. This Calendar is something you will have to see to appreciate and you will have to pay twenty-five cents for it in any art store.

We are doing this to show our appreciation of your trade. Also during the week from the 18th to the 23rd we will have a guessing contest for a beautiful French doll and go cart.

Model Bakery

Go After Business

in a business way—the advertising way. An ad in this paper offers the maximum service at the minimum cost. It reaches the people of the town and vicinity you want to reach.

Try It—It Pays

THE FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

Interesting Meetings Held At
Court House Last Week.

Last week Wednesday and Thursday the people of this community were privileged to listen to talks and discussions along the line of practical farming.

N. P. Hull, of Dimondale, who conducted the meeting, gave practical talks and advice on several subjects. The economy and advantage of silos and silage was clearly demonstrated. The fattening and milk producing properties of silage were thoroughly discussed. A few years ago the use of silos was little known but today in the thickly populated countries nearly every farm has one or more silos. They are deemed almost indispensable on farms where there is stock.

The method and value of alfalfa culture came in for discussion. A field of alfalfa once started is sure of good heavy crops every year. It is particularly advised in light soils as the roots grow to immense length where no kind of drouth will prevent the plant from receiving sufficient moisture to insure good crops every year.

The farmer of tomorrow must accomplish many times more than the farmer of the past. He, to be a success, must use more intelligent methods—must use more brains together with his hands. One farmer of tomorrow must feed two people in the city while two farmers of yesterday fed one man in the city. The state and U. S. agricultural bureaus are assisting the farmers in their work and it is only for the farmers to take advantage of the useful suggestions sent out by them. Our grand institution, of which we are all so proud, the Michigan Agricultural college at Lansing is always ready to answer questions and advise on any subject regarding soils, fertilizing and practically any subject in this line.

It was shown that good profits were to be made in the raising of beans. N. A. Clapp, of Northville, talked on breeding and care of farm horses and the farm orchard.

He also gave some good practical advice on good roads—a matter in which we, in Crawford county are especially interested. He said:

Good roads increase the value of the property along which they are made. The man who is seeking a farm in



Holiday Greetings

We extend to one and all a cordial invitation to visit our store to inspect the many pretty and useful articles, suitable as X-Mas Presents

Betzler & Wilson Fountain Pens

make an appropriate and acceptable gift. Something easily mailed, too, if it is to be sent away.
Regular Pens 75c to \$2.00
Self-filling \$1.50 to \$5.00



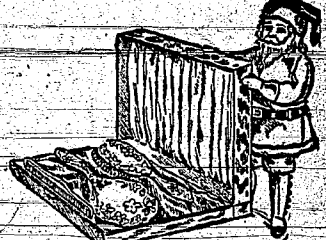
Mesh Bags

always please.
Genuine German Silver, Kid lined Bags, \$5.00.
Smaller size, Silk lined, at \$3.50.
Coin Holder, \$1.50.

Don't forget, an order for a pair of glasses would give pleasure to someone for many days to come.

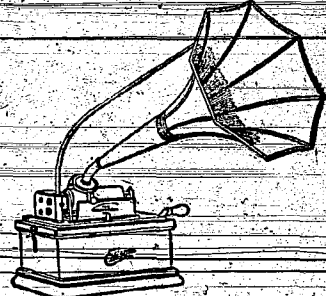
A Partial List That Will Interest You.

Silver toilet sets, \$7.00 to \$10.00	Locket chains, \$1.00 " 4.00
Jewel boxes, 1.50 " 3.50	Brooches, .75 " 3.50
Sterling hat pin holders, 2.00	Hat pins, .50 " 1.50
Sterling novelties, .50 " 2.00	Bar pins, .25 " 2.00
Sterling souvenir spoons, .85 " 1.50	Dress pins, .25 " 2.00
Sterling berry spoons, 2.25 " 5.00	Beads, .25 " 2.00
Set sterling dessert spoons, 10.00	Bracelets, 1.50 " 7.00
Set sterling tea spoons, 4.25 " 7.25	Waist sets, .75 " 2.00
Sterling cream ladies, 1.50 " 1.90	Ladies watch chains, 3.00 " 6.00
Sterling sugar shells, 1.40	Ladies fobs, 2.00 " 5.00
Sterling tea strainers, 2.00 " 2.50	Rosaries, 3.00 " 5.00
Sterling oyster forks, 1.50	Cuff links, .50 " 2.50
Sterling meat fork, 5.50	Gents' cuff links, .75 " 4.00
Sterling cheese knives, 2.50 " 3.00	Gents' fobs, 2.50 " 7.00
Sterling baby spoons, 1.25 " 1.40	Gents' chains, 2.25 " 7.00
Sterling thimbles, .50 " 1.50	Smoking sets, 1.50 " 4.25
Hand painted china, 1.00 " 4.00	Shaving sets, 3.00 " 6.00
Cut glass pieces, etc., .75 " 15.00	Carving sets, 3.00 " 7.00
Casseroles, bake and fern dishes, 3.00 " 7.00	Clocks, 1.00 " 8.00
Crumb and bread trays, 2.00 " 5.00	Brass ware, 1.00 " 3.50
A large assortment of 1835 R. Wallace silver plated ware to select from.	Watches, 7.00 " 40.00
	Rings of all kinds, \$1.00 and up.



Military Sets

make an excellent present. We have them in Silver from \$5.00 to \$6.50.
Genuine Ebony, Sterling Silver mounted Traveling Sets in Seal Leather, \$2.25 to \$8.00.

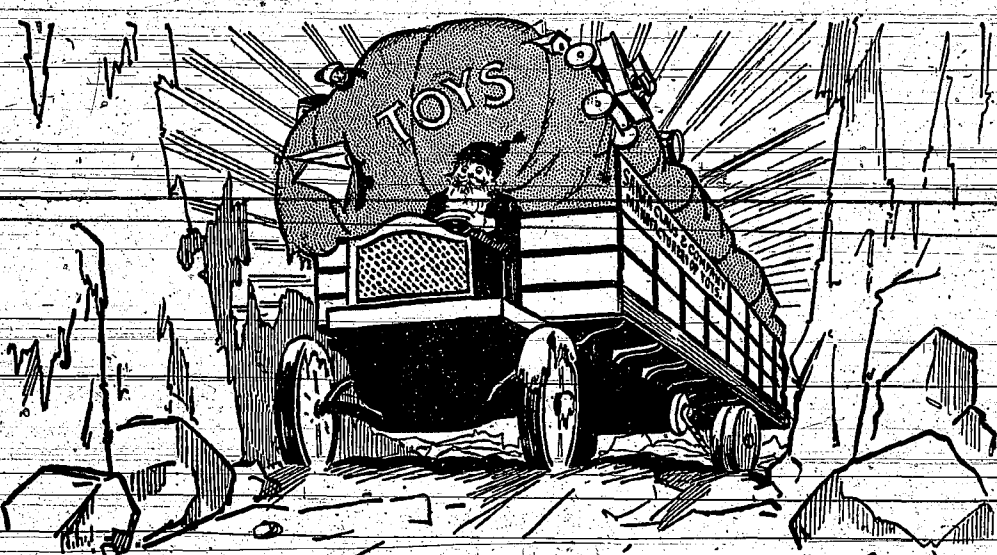


An Edison Phonograph would mean
A Merry Christmas

for every member of the family, \$15.00 up.
An easy payment plan if you so desire.

C. J. HATHAWAY

Jeweler and Optometrist



Christmas Gifts for Children

Brenner's Cash Store Offers a Few Suggestions.

It looked yesterday as if Christmas buying had begun in earnest. All day long our store was crowded to its full capacity. This was largely accounted for by the fact that we have the largest and grandest display of holiday goods ever brought to Grayling. You need but to visit Brenner's Cash Store to see the proof of this statement. The display is dazzling; the choice of articles almost infinite. You can not help seeing many things you will want. Brenner's Cash Store is the Christmas Directory. The Christmas buyer can come to Brenner's and his or her worries as to "what shall I give" will be over. Prices will not bother you; they run from a nickel into tens of dollars.

Here are a Few Suggestions.

Men's; Overcoats hand-tailored ready-to-wear Suits; Dress Pants and Working Pants; Dress Shirts and Working Shirts; Fur Caps, and Woolen Caps; a fine line of Furs, Mufflers; Men's fine Shoes; Ladies fine Shoes; Buster Brown Shoes for the Girl or Boy; Trunks, Valises, Bags, Suit Cases, Toilet Sets, warm Shoes and Slippers; Underwear for Ladies, Men and Children; Children's and Boys' fine Suits; Boys' knee Pants; Ladies' fine Night Gowns, Waists and Underskirts; fine Dolls, Cuffs and Collar Boxes, and the finest line of all kinds of Toys ever shown in Grayling. Don't buy before you have seen ours and don't forget the fine premiums we give, they're worth while seeing. In our Dishes we can show you a fine display in China, Crockery, Glassware and fancy Dishes. In our store your dollar will do double duty.

Merry Christmas



Remember the place

Brenner's Cash Store

The Store that shares its profit with you. Next to opera house, Main Street, Grayling, Mich.

which to invest will pay a better price if the same is adjacent to a good road, than if by a poor road. There is an increased money value for several reasons: The farmers can save time and horse strength when marketing his produce; a good road is appreciated by all those who travel over it and it helps to give a better impression of the character of the people, and a better impression of the quality of the land lying along beside it; a good road is a good advertisement for the country through which it has been made.

In order to have good roads there must be a concerted desire and action on the part of those in the portion of country where the road is to be improved. One part of the people pulling one way and another part another way, hinders all from making any progress. Unity of desire and action is necessary.

One of the first essentials in making a good road, is selecting a good road master—one who understands the art of making a road and then following his directions. He should plan to keep the water out of the road, especially where the soil is clayey. Turnpike the roads that run up and down the hills to prevent the water from running down in the road and washing the sand to the bottom of the hill. Turnpike the roads on the level if the soil is either clay or mucky to keep the water out of the road.

Gravel is the best material with which to build roads. Use coarse gravel. If there is much fine sand in the gravel it should be sifted. After the gravel has been applied, narrow and roll down leaving the middle of the road the highest.

By improving a little of the road each year, the whole district can be made better in a few years. Keep the surface of the road that has been improved, smooth, by filling in the holes and depressions that may appear and smoothing with a road drag.

In some portions of the state the system has been adopted, the township cut into two or three districts, the work being done under the supervision of two or three good road masters, and the expense met by a money tax instead of by the labor tax system. Improvements have been made faster under the township system than by the old labor tax system.

The brush and small trees should be cut away from the roadside, leaving a road path of legal width. Ornamental trees may be set beside all the roads in the sandy portions of the country. In the clay and clay-loam soils they should not be set beside the road on the south side of an east and west road as they prevent its drying out after rains.

Good roads cost an effort and the dwellers along beside the road must be willing to make the effort and keep constantly at it. After a few years (Continued on page five)

BAY CITY MAN KILLED ON M. C.

Sleigh on Tracks at Vanderbilt Struck by M. C. Train.

A sleigh loaded with logs, becoming stuck on the rails at a crossing one mile south of Vanderbilt, cost one life, considerable damage and traffic delay of one hour Thursday afternoon when it was struck by north bound Michigan Central passenger train No. 503.

George Reid, the fireman, whose home was in Bay City, leaped from his post in the cab of the locomotive and was instantly killed. The passengers and the engineer, who remained at his post, were uninjured.

A heavy mist was responsible for the accident, obscuring the stranded sleigh from the engineer's view. The farmer, hearing the approaching train, hurriedly unhitched his team and drove off the track, escaping by only a fraction of a second.

The train remained on the tracks and the engine was only slightly damaged. Traffic, however, was delayed about an hour.

Public Opinions.

In last week's Avalanche we noticed under the heading, "The Slot Machine," we notice the statement that slot machines have been in free use in our town. We had hoped that the work of removal would be done so quietly that no mention of it would be made in the papers.

Those who worked to accomplish this had the best interest of the town in view and did not wish to have it gain notoriety as a town in which slot machines had been freely used; but now that without any fault of ours it is in print, and we find that there are many false reports of how and why the work of removing the slot machines was done, we ask for space to explain.

Sometime last August a petition to the prosecuting attorney and sheriff to enforce the state law in regard to slot machines was prepared and signed by the resident clergymen in the following order: Rev. James Ivey, Rev. P. Kjolhede, Rev. J. Humphrey Fleming, Rev. J. J. Riess. This was put in the hands of mothers who were interested, but these were women who had many duties and the petitions were never thoroughly circulated.

These petitions were written because many people had asked their pastors if they could not do something to save their husbands, sons and daughters from the gambling habit. These requests continued not only to pastors but also to other persons of influence in the town.

Finally, after much prayer to God that he would teach us the right way

to proceed and give us the victory, a committee of three mothers called upon the prosecuting attorney and sheriff and advised those officers not to arrest the owners of slot machines, but to warn them that unless they were removed, they would in the future be subject to arrest. All this was done in a spirit of kindness, both to the ones who owned and those who played slot machines. We all wish to have both our persons and property protected by the law.

Then we must be law abiding. People must not choose to violate part of the laws of the state then expect the boys and girls to become worthy citizens of this republic. It was to save the children that these "men of God" and these mothers declared war against the slot machine.

I will give you the two verses of scripture that the mothers took to give them courage to do what they felt a duty.

"Be ye strong therefore and let not your hands be weak, for your work shall be rewarded."

"The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

There would be much misunderstanding avoided if a reform work it could be understood that white we hate sin, we love the sinners, are seeking to have them and desire their best good for time and eternity.

Mrs. ELIZABETH IVEY.

Church Notes.

M. E. church, December 17th, 1911.

Public Service subject, "The Promised Comforter." No. 2. Epworth League subject, "A Well-spent Life and its Close." Leader, Mrs. Edna Mosher. Public Service subject, "The Certainty of Sight." No. 2.

James Ivey, Pastor.

Presbyterian church, December 17th. Topic of morning sermon, "The Fine Art of Hearing the Gospel. Is it a Lost Art?" Christian Endeavor topic, "Missions in West India." Topic of evening service, "Self Assurance, or Christian Assurance." J. HUMPHREY FLEMING.

We want your subscription for magazines and publications. We can give you the lowest possible clubbing offers. A nice way to remember a friend for Christmas—send them a year's subscription to some good magazine.

OLAF BORRISON & SONS.

A number of boys wanting to learn to play band instruments with expectations to eventually organize a Juvenile band. Enquire at my office or residence.

F. G. WALTON.

Engraved cards for Christmas presents at this office.

Floral Designs

For All Occasions

Cut Flowers

And Potted Plants

MARKET GARDEN

JOHN H. COOK, Florist
Phone 444

Real Estate

FOR SALE

A Fortune For Someone

An entire section in township 27 N R 2 W, one mile from R. R. near school, excellent fruit land and for general farming, well watered. A beautiful little lake well stocked with fish. A fine lot of timber for sawing and for wood. Can be bought for half its value half cash and balance on time.

40 acres, fenced, 8 acres under cultivation, 1-2 mile from village, \$600.00

40 acres Oak Land, adjoining Grayling Park on Portage Lake \$800.00.

Two desirable building lots on Ogumaw street, \$250.00.

40 acres, good neighborhood, convenient to school and post office; one third rich black musk land and balance good. A spring brook running through the tract. Title perfect. \$200.00.

80 acres SW 1/4 of NE 1/4 & NW 1/4 of SE 1/4 sec. 3, Grayling, good supply of stove wood on land, price and terms to suit.

40 acres in Beaver Creek, good house and stable, a good well and young orchard, and plenty of small fruit. A Bargain.

O. PALMER

The LASH of CIRCUMSTANCE

by HARRY IRVING GREENE
Author of "Yosonde of the Wilderness"
Illustrations by Magnus G. Kettner

SYNOPSIS.

Abner Halliday, a miserly millionaire, is found gagged, bound and insolent in his room. His wife, Clara, is missing. The thread of the story is taken up by his neighbor, Tom, who lives in the same house as the other characters. Tom is a young man and Clara is a young woman.

CHAPTER II.—(Continued.)

I happened to meet Bruce one day at our noon luncheon. It was Saturday afternoon and my work was finished for the week. He came into the place where I sat and dropped heavily into a seat beside me. His appearance caused me to whirl upon him. His face was drawn with the sick of a drum, his eyes were heavy as though with a great weariness, and his hands aspen in their shakiness. He had the haunted look of a man who has been crushed, soul and body, by some appalling disaster. Marvelling at the evil transformation which had come over him, I let my hand fall upon his shaking fingers.

"What is it, Bruce?" I cried sharply. He blotted the perspiration from his face and answered me hoarsely as a wail.

"It is all up. They have wiped me out clean as a whistle. Had every thing I could rake and scrape on 'System' stock, and she has gone straight to the bottom-most pit of inferno. And I was forty thousand to the good and was going to quit for ever at fifty thousand and marry Clara. He burst into tears. "And now I can't marry her, for I am ruined, busted, blown up, shot to pieces. If any one should give me an automobile I couldn't raise the wind to fill its tires. His head dropped forward, and wiping his eyes dry he sat with chest heaving. I stared at him.

"How much did it sink?" I asked slowly after a moment. He waved his hands helplessly.

"It didn't sink; it didn't take time to do that. It just plunged, dived, sounded—dropped like a ton of lead in a vacuum. I was wiped out before I could yell 'keno' and croak a finger. Oh, the miserable shame of it! As a respectable, first-class, unimpeachable, idiot unutterable! As a fool! Fool!"

Shocked, but helpless, I surveyed him in silence. Presently his voice arose again, this time angrily.

"But that stock is only temporarily knocked down, and is bound to come up smiling long before the count. It was that damnable published lie that started the panic, and the scare will be over in 24 hours when the truth is known. If I only had \$10,000 more I could get back in good shape in no time. But I can't beg, borrow or steal a tenth of that sum. I'm an alloy-infested, free-lunch pauper who can't even sell his soul because old Nick figures he'll get it anyway free gratis. And there's our dear Uncle Abner sitting up there in his den, this very minute, plotting his fingers and nose through \$40,000 that he has just collected in currency. I was up to see him in a dying effort to get him to strike me, but he only grinned at me like a totem pole and kept on counting the piles of yellow backs until I wanted to yell and had to run away to get shot of it."

He got upon his feet and in his anger banged the table with a metal object which he had tightly clenched in his fist.

"But I've simply got to get ten thousand for a month or two, I tell you, and I'm going to do it. Then suddenly subsiding, he turned to me in helpless importunity. "You couldn't spare me anything in the shape of an advance, could you, old man?"

The pathos of the appeal touched me, but I shook my head. "No, Bruce, I can give you nothing to speculate with," I replied quietly. He got up with a despairing shrug of his shoulders, nodded a hurried good-by and was off on what was doubtless some last despairing quest. I saw no good in attempting to detain him and therefore made no effort to call him back. Thoughts of what he had told me filled my mind to the exclusion of all else. It was bad news, very bad news, indeed, and I knew that Clara would know she did, she would take his troubles deep into her own heart. And it was a miserable shame, too. Forty thousand dollars was a magnificent start along the road to fortune for a man only twenty-eight years old, and it would probably be many years before he could climb that high again. The suddenness of the catastrophe was a distinct shock to me. For an hour I pondered over it deeply, then, arising, took my own departure homeward.

Uncle Abner was still nursing around among his stacks of currency as I entered. He glanced up at me quickly as I opened the door, then, ignoring me, picked up a thousand dollar bill and began talking to it.

"Hoot at me, you beauty. Of course you don't know how I got you, but I'm going to tell you. I schemed for you days and laid awake for you nights. I sweat for you and I set traps for you and denied myself for you, and finally I got you. You led me a pretty chase, but in the end I captured you because I had my soul set upon you. And why did I want you? Because you are the concentration of stored energy. All I have to do is turn you loose in the world and sit back in my chair and watch. In

a minute a hundred men will jump forth and hammer and saw and toll from morning until night. And the results of all their labor will be mine because while they work for you, you belong to me. I could buy men, women or souls with you—but I won't. I am just going to breed you. I am going to breed you until you get me another like yourself, and then I am going to do it all over again. And you will never get away from me on this earth, either." He turned to me with that disgusting leer of his.

"Tom, how many of these beauties have you saved up?"

"Not any. And it doesn't look as though I ever would at the price I pay for second-class board and lodgings." He leaped to his feet in a quivering rage, for the moment made speechless by my unprecedented insolence in daring to resent his insults. But his voice came to him soon enough. Grinning like a chimpanzee he fairly squealed in his anger.

"Second-class lodgings? You never had enough money in your life to buy a quarter of it. And you never will have, either, you spendthrift. If I didn't charge you for your living you would have just that much more to go to the dogs with. You ought to thank me for it. Second-class board! You will be glad to get a bone to gnaw yet, you puppy." Suddenly he subsided to a sneer and began smoothing my coat over like a prospective buyer of old clothes.

"This suit, how much did it cost you, huh?"

"Fifty dollars."

"And the rest of that trousseau that you wear around in the mud, including the overcoat?"

"I don't know. I never figured it up. Probably seventy-five more."

He sat down with a thump and sat glaring at me as his voice gradually rose again.

"A hundred and twenty-five dollars' worth of dry goods on your back as you strut around the streets! And on your salary! He popped up like a jack-in-the-box and stood before me, scowling like, with arms outstretched and his clothes hanging in shapeliness from his shakelike frame.

"Look at me! This suit cost me nine dollars and I have worn it for a year. My shirt cost 40 cents, my collar and my necktie eight. Mean for me, I am not as well dressed as you?"

"That is a matter of personal opinion. Anyway, it is none of your business so long as I pay you for my living. At 50 cents I have never had to ask you for money. He reached forward with his long arm and began thumping me on the chest with his bony knuckles.

"Hey! Wouldn't you though if you thought you could get it? Wouldn't you though, Mr. Peacock, with your fine clothes, if you thought you could wheedle a dollar out of me? But you know your Uncle Abner ain't fool enough to let you have it. I'd rather trust it to Bruce, for with all his foolishness he has got twice the sense that you have. He takes chances and some day may win a fortune, while you only spend, spend, spend—Get a cent from me! I'd like to see you."

With a quick run he gathered up the money, shoved it into the safe, spun the combination and it rattled like a pinwheel wheel and faded away from his pockets. I faced him in a boiling rage. For while I had always cherished the natural and legitimate hope that I, as his next of kin, might some day profit by reason of his accumulative instincts, he could have left his money strewn broadcast throughout the house from the time I had first come to live with him and I would not have touched a dollar of it, even had I known I never would be even suspected. Furthermore, none had a better reputation for honesty than myself, and his everlasting treatment of me as a potential thief had always nauseated me. Not caring how he might regard the act, I drew the key to the front door from my pocket and flung it on the table before him. It was the only key to the house. I had ever possessed and its surrender left me without means of entrance, but without another word I stalked out into the open, banging the door behind me.

Behind me I never had I been in more villainous mood than now as I strode through the trees on my way downtown.

I desired to see Bruce again. I was concerned to know just what time his despondency might take, and I thought that I might cheer him up a bit. Knowing his usual place of habitat in his hours of recreation it was not long before I had located him. He was humped up, buzzard-like in a semi-private room of a cafe, his hands sounding the depths of his pockets and his chin resting upon his breast. A cock-tail, apparently untasted, stood on the table before him. I sat down on the other side of the board, noting that his eyes were closed.

He had the general appearance of a man who had been drinking. Ordinarily in the state of person, he was now semi-disreputable. He had not shaved that day, his necktie was disarranged and his hair rumpled. However, as I had never known him to be the worse for liquor, I was inclined to give him the benefit of the doubt. In this case and ascribe his unkemptness to brooding over his misfortune.

"Bruce," I said after a moment. He opened his eyes and looked at me vacantly, but made no reply. In a general way I attempted to console him, but he only shook his head in silence, and finding my efforts unwarded I finally abandoned them. Ordering a mild decoction for myself, I touched his glass and drank to the hope that better times might soon be on the wing. He emptied his glass without reply, and sank back into his dejected posture. Five minutes later he seemed to be half asleep, and I determined to take him bodily in my hand. Not wishing to have him seen in that condition by any friends who might chance to enter, I shook him into a semblance of life. Then making firm take my arm, I assisted him into the open air. Darkness had already fallen and the lights of the skyscrapers were beginning to sparkle. He lurched heavily against me, and seeing that his condition was rapidly becoming hopeless, I signaled a cab, opened the door and thrust him inside. He fell upon the seat, muttering some address to which he wished to be taken and I turned to the Jehu who was propelling him up.

"He will be all right in a couple of hours. At present he is not feeling particularly well and should be taken care of," I said significantly. The other nodded his understanding. Then with brief instructions for him to handle his charge right side up with care, I turned away as he picked up the reins.

I formulated my own plans for the evening. In my then state of mind, I did not care to exert myself, preferring to go where I could sit quietly and be entertained by others. I decided upon the theater. A block further on I happened across a banking acquaintance, who, upon my invitation, joined me. At the end of the performance we emerged. It was now in the neighborhood of 11 o'clock, and, shaking hands, we parted for the night.

Having thrown down my key to the house, I decided to stay downtown until morning. Crossing the street, I entered the Pacific hotel. I knew the clerk at the desk, and saluting him by name, I asked him to assign me to a room a few floors up and fronting on the alley, such a location being quieter in the early morning hours than a room facing the street. He gave me the key and a bell-boy immediately showed me to my number.

Not being accustomed to retiring before 12, I was not in the least sleepy. Leaving the light burning, I threw myself upon the bed as scene by scene I ran the film of the events of the day before my mental eyes. And so deeply did I become engrossed in this that when I awoke myself and looked at my watch it was after midnight. I arose and stood before the mirror, searching my own face keenly, my mind still reverting to my quarrel with my uncle and his probable future consequences. While I did not imagine that in his present state of mind he would be particularly concerned as to where I was, I resolved to call him up and advise him of my whereabouts. It did not seem that it could do any harm, and undoubtedly it was good policy to try and conciliate him now that we had given full vent to our spleen. Going to the wall telephone, I asked for his number, and a moment later heard his querulous voice over the wire as he demanded to know who it was that called him at that hour. I answered him with the quietness I always strove to employ except upon rare occasions when I for the moment lost command of myself. I wished him well and told him where I was, and that I had decided to remain downtown for the night. His answering sentences exploded in my ear like distant firecrackers.

"That's right, just like you. Spending your money for hotel bills when you have a better bed at home. And I suppose you will pay those pirates a dollar for your breakfast. All right, go ahead, young millionaire. But I will charge you for your breakfast here, anyway. Don't you forget that."

"I will be home at nine o'clock, the usual Sunday breakfast hour," I returned in an untroubled tone. He snorted and rang off without deigning to reply further, and I hung up the receiver with the feeling that I had done my part towards a reconciliation. For the present at least, the matter must rest where it was. Then calling up the hotel office and leaving an order for them to awaken me at seven o'clock, I locked the door and turned out the light.

At the ringing of the call bell the next morning at the hour I had designated, I arose and began my toilet. I had slept but little, and that little was more like the semi-consciousness which comes from exhaustion rather than the slumber of repose. I felt unrefreshed, despondent, self-angry. Nor was my appearance in the glass satisfactory. I ran my eyes over my reflection. I had little to boast of for breakfast, but inasmuch as I had told Uncle Abner that I would be present at that occasion, I paid my bill and took a car homeward. The morning was a midsummer day. The foliage had been bathed by a night shower and the air was perfumed with the incense of growing green things. As I passed up the walk among the oaks I could not but realize how beautiful the grounds were despite their unkemptness, and that it would cost me a pang after all to leave this place permanently should my quarrel with its owner develop to that acute stage. For it was under these trees that I had passed so many pleasant hours with Clara, or wandering through the marble halls of my ancestral manor. Mrs. Tebbets admitted me upon my summons, but no sooner had I entered the sleepy halls than my fondness for the place vanished in the old depression which always came upon me as I viewed their loneliness. It was like passing into a vault, cheerless, gloomy, the echoes mocking my footsteps. I went straight to my own room. The door was closed between where I was and my uncle's apartment, and I stood listening. Usually he was up and could be heard putting around before this, but now all was silence beyond. I opened the door that separated our quarters and stepped forward. But on the threshold I stopped with my eyes sweeping the scene that lay before me.

The room was in a state of disorder. Everywhere was to be seen the hand of violence. Bureau drawers had been ransacked and left yawning; the bed was a twisted tangle of sheets and crumpled pillows; clothing was scattered about the floor. But what was more startling than anything else was the condition of the iron safe. Its combination had been shattered by some powerful explosive and its door, standing wide, gave a full view into its looted interior. With the sweat starting from my forehead I rushed forward.

I inspected it with a glance. No money remained in it, but the papers looked as though they had not been disturbed beyond a general overhaul. I swept my eyes about the room and under the bed. No glimpse of my uncle rewarded me and I ran from the room with loud calls for Mrs. Tebbets. It was her custom not to disturb us of Sunday mornings until she announced breakfast, and that she knew nothing of the condition of affairs in the upper part of the house had been evidenced by her ordinary demeanor as she admitted me. From room to room of the upper story I went in rapid search of the missing money, and at last, in one of the dark closets I found him and dragged him forth. He was bound hand and foot, and I bent over him and shook him until he seemed to be rather more unconscious than otherwise, but he certainly was alive.

Puffing up the stairs in response to

go ahead, young millionaire. But I will charge you for your breakfast here, anyway. Don't you forget that."

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Puffing up the stairs in response to



At Last in One of the Dark Closets, I Found Him.

my cries, Mrs. Tebbets reached me just as I had finished my hasty diagnosis. I immediately removed a handkerchief which had been tied around his mouth, slashed the cords which bound him, and together we carried him to my room and placed him upon the bed. I tore open his night garment and examined him superficially, but could discover no marks of physical violence, save about the throat. There it was red and puffy. Mrs. Tebbets, in a hysteria of excitement, was useless as an assistant, and hastening to the telephone, I called up first Doctor Courtney, our family physician, and then the nearest police station. After that I went back to the victim.

He was breathing more freely now that the handkerchief had been removed, and presently his eyes opened and he stared at me. When I spoke to him, however, he did not answer. Having done everything for him that I could think of for the moment, I sat down upon the edge of the bed to await the arrival of those whom I had summoned.

CHAPTER III.

Doctor Courtney arrived first. Up the drive he came whirling in his light electric runabout, and darting through the door which the house-keeper held wide for him was by the patient's side in a few seconds. Together we made a thorough examination of the revolving man. The physician tested his temperature, his heart and reflexes, afterward addressing me concisely.

"It is nothing serious. There is no permanent injury and he will be all right as soon as he recovers from the shock. He seems to have been severely choked, but there was no chloroform or other drug administered. He gave the patient a stimulant, and I was much relieved to see my uncle respond to it favorably as the patrol wagon arrived. A moment later a group of officers, piloted by Mrs. Tebbets, swarmed into the room. In a few words I explained to them the condition of affairs as I had found them, and in a few minutes they were trooping over the house from top to bottom in a survey of the safe, the doors and shutters and other things of interest to them. Then they came back to us. Uncle Abner by this time was able to speak in a low voice, and the captain, seating himself, demanded that he be told all that the puffed one knew of the affair. Still speaking with more or less difficulty, Uncle Abner addressed us.

"I was round asleep. The room was very dark and I knew of nothing until I awoke and found myself plucked to the bed by a heavy man. He was choking me and pinning my arms to helplessness beneath his knees. I attempted to struggle, but could do little more than squirm beneath his strength. He used a good deal of force, and in a few moments my senses left me. I knew nothing until I awoke and found myself in some dark hole, and I rolled about in the darkness until I found the walls to each other knew it was a closet. There was a handkerchief in my mouth and I could not call for help. Anyway, it would have been useless, for there was nobody else on the premises but Mrs. Tebbets, and I knew if she should awake and attempt to come to my assistance or give the alarm my assailants would do something to render her helpless if they had not already done so. Therefore I desisted attempting to make a noise. After awhile I must have lost my senses again, for all is blank to me from them up to the time I awoke here a few moments ago. I do not believe that more than one man had hold of me, as I heard nothing to indicate that he had companions. He may have had, however, for I could see nothing in the darkness. I do not believe that I am hurt very much, but I am considerably exhausted and

feel pretty well battered up. He used me pretty rough, and I thought he was going to kill me. I am rather old and not very strong, you know, and cannot stand as much as I could once upon a time. I could not identify the man if I saw him by daylight, but I heard him cough in a peculiar way as he was choking me."

He stopped speaking and the ghost of his old foxlike smile came creeping out of the corners of his mouth. "But I will bet he did not get much, the infernal villain. Everything of value was locked up in the old strong box. You may be sure I took good care to that."

We at the bedside shot significant glances from one to another in the silence. I disliked to break the news of his loss to him, not knowing what kind of a scene he would make, but decided I might as well do so now as at any other time. "They got whatever money was in the safe, uncle," I said. "They blew the combination into old junk and cleaned out the currency to the last cent." He uttered a gasp and tried to sit up, but the physician pushed him back upon the pillow.

"Burglarized the safe! Got all the money!" he yelled, hoarsely, his eyes rolling upward so that the whites were to be seen. The expression upon his face was a ghastly reflection of the shock to his soul, and despite his miseries I felt sorry for him as I grasped one twitching hand. His cheeks turned to the yellowish white of a fish's belly as he strained out to his full length with a groan that was horrifying in its death mimicry.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

A Real One.

"I was once retained in a case in a down state village where I had known most of the inhabitants ever since I was a child," says Attorney George B. Harris. "In examining some of the witnesses I forgot myself and used their given names. The judge interrupted me."

"Mr. Harris, he said, 'I believe it would be more dignified to address these witnesses by their surnames.'"

"I apologized to the court and reformed temporarily. A little later an awkward, slovenly farmer was called to the stand. I was well acquainted with the chap—so was everybody else in the room."

"Now, Rubb," I began.

"Wait a moment," called the judge. He leaned over and took a good look at the witness. He turned to me and added:

"You may proceed, sir. I see no reason why the witness should not be called Rubb. Cleveland Plain Dealer."

Why the Stamps Don't Stick.

Postmaster General Hitchcock is receiving complaints from all sections of the country that the glue on stamps is worthless and that they will not stick.

According to officials of the department, the glue is damaged by water bugs that nibble it off the stamps. The Washington postoffice is infested with these insects, and, as many stamps are kept ready for sale on desks and in drawers, the bugs have easy access to them. The department has no scheme for combating the bugs. In lieu of it, it placed in the glue, must poison people who moisten stamps with their tongues.

He Knew It.

"Is there any money in this business that you are trying to promote?"

"There certainly is."

"How do you know?"

"Why, I myself put in a lot."

His Age.

"You don't mean to say she is going to marry that man? Why, he is old enough to be her father."

"Yes—but still young enough to be her errand boy."

THE GREAT KIDNEY REMEDY CONVINCES THE MOST SKEPTICAL

I want to tell you what Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root did for me. I was completely broken down. My kidneys hurt me so that when I was down, I could not get up unless I took hold of something to pull myself up with. I tried different kinds of kidney pills, but they did me no good. Someone told me to try Swamp-Root. I had no faith in it but to please my wife, I purchased one bottle and took it. I saw it was beginning to help me and kept on taking it until I had taken six bottles and it straightened me out all right.

Swamp-Root is the only medicine that did me any good. I thought I would write this letter and tell everyone that is afflicted as I was, to take Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root. The six bottles I took cost me five dollars, and did me five hundred dollars worth of good.

Yours very truly,
GEORGE H. HUBER,
Atlanta, Ill.

State of Illinois } ss,
Logan County }
I, M. M. Hooser, a Notary Public in and for the said county of Logan, in the State of Illinois, do hereby certify, that George H. Huber, known to me to be the same person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person and acknowledged that he signed, sealed and delivered the said instrument as his free and voluntary act. Given under my hand and Notarial Seal this 12th day of July, A. D. 1909.
M. M. Hooser,
Notary Public.

Prove What Swamp-Root Will Do For You

Send to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., for a sample bottle. It will convince anyone. You will also receive a booklet of valuable information, telling all about the kidneys and bladder. When writing, be sure and mention this paper. Regular fifty-cent and one-dollar size bottles for sale at all drug stores.

GOT THE LETTERS MIXED

Clergymen's Mistake Resulted in Giving Decided Surprise to Dignified Archbishop.

One of the most amusing stories which the Hon. Lionel A. Tollemache tells in "Nuts and Chestnuts," is that entitled, "The Wrong Envelope." Mr. M., a missionary, shortly before leaving England, wrote a letter to one from Archbishop Tait asking him to dine, and the other from the secretary of a religious society, a very old friend, asking him to preach. He accepted the archbishop's invitation, and at the same time wrote to the secretary, but put the letters into the wrong envelopes.

After the dinner at Lambeth the archbishop said to him: "Mr. M., do you always answer your dinner invitations in the same way?"

"I do not understand, your grace."

"The letter, which was then shown to the missionary, ran thus: 'You old rascal! Why did you not ask me before? You know perfectly well that I shall be on the high seas on the date you name.'—London Tit-Bits.

VERY NATURALLY.



She—I wonder who originated the saying, "There is always room at the top?"

He—Some hotel clerk, I guess.

Resigned.

The sick man had called his lawyer. "I wish to explain again to you," said he weakly, "about villing my property."

The attorney held up his hand reassuringly. "There, there," said he, "leave that all to me."

The sick man sighed resignedly. "I suppose I might as well," said he, turning upon his pillow. "You'll get it, anyway."

THE LITTLE WIDOW

A Mighty Good Sort of Neighbor to Have.

"A little widow, a neighbor of mine, persuaded me to try Grape-Nuts when my stomach was so weak that it would not retain food of any other kind," writes a grateful woman, from San Bernardino Co., Cal.

"I had been ill and confined to my bed with fever and nervous prostration for three long months after the birth of my second boy. We were in despair until the little widow's advice brought relief."

"I liked Grape-Nuts food from the beginning, and in an incredibly short time it gave me such strength that I was able to leave my bed and enjoy my three good meals a day. In 2 months my weight increased from 95 to 113 pounds, my nerves had steadied down and I felt ready for anything. My neighbors were amazed to see me gain so rapidly," and I am now as well as when they heard that Grape-Nuts alone had brought the change."

"My 4-year-old boy had eczema very bad last spring and lost his appetite entirely, which made him cross and peevish. I put him on a diet of Grape-Nuts, which he relished at once. He improved from the beginning, the eczema disappeared and now he is fat and rosy, with a delightfully soft, clean skin. The Grape-Nuts diet did it. I will willingly answer all inquiries. Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich."

Read the little book, "The Road to Wellville," in which, 'There's a reason.' Ever read the above letter? A new one appeared from time to time. They are real, true, and full of human interest.

WANTED SENSE OF DIRECTION

Stranger in City Felt It Imperative That He Should Get His "Bearings."

The stolidity of the new arrival indicated indifference to gossamer views, yet immediately after registering at the skyscraper hotel he asked to be taken to the roof.

"View?" said he to a protesting friend. "No, it isn't the view I want."

tell north from south to this day when the sun is not shining, and in Chicago I am not much better off. I lived in that town for two years, and, of course, learned to reason out the cardinal points, but I never felt them. If I had obeyed instinct when I wanted to go west I would have walked straight into Lake Michigan.

"Nowadays when reaching a strange city I take my bearings from a lofty tower. I expect to live in New York the rest of my natural days, and I do not wish constantly to have to com-

bat the feeling that when I start to Albany I ought to board a Staten Island ferryboat."—New York Times.

Window Glass.

Utility is the mother of nearly all decorative features. Windows were first designed to give light. The history of glass shows that the user has taken decorative prominence in old colonial houses. In small panes was used probably because it was cheap. The pane was divided by small pieces of wood called mullions

After many years glass came to be used in large sizes, and of recent years it has been the practice to have but a single sheet, often in a very large size of plate glass. These are permissible only where the view warrants their use. The average house or cottage is better without them, as they suggest the show window of a shop rather than a dwelling.

How the Templars Lived.

The order of the Templars was organized about the year 1118 for the

purpose of protecting pilgrims on their way to the Holy Land and back. The founder of the order is supposed to have been Baldwin II., king of Jerusalem. For a long time the Templars were the most highly honored organization in Europe, but jealousy on the part of the sovereigns, coupled with their desire to get hold of the great wealth of the Templars, caused the persecution of the order, which finally (about 1308) resulted in its practical extinction. The order was abolished in 1312.

Crawford Avalanche.

O. P. Schumann, Editor and Proprietor.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION:
 One Year.....\$1 50
 Six Months.....75
 Three Months.....40

Entered as second-class matter at the Postoffice at Grayling, Mich., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

GRAYLING, THURSDAY, DEC. 14

Store Window Displays.

Many of our stores have taken on their holiday attire and are looking gay with red and green trimmings. They are displaying many new creations for this festive occasion—things of beauty, things of comfort and usefulness. We here mention a few of the window displays:

Lewis & Co., Trimmed with holly and festoons of red and green, displaying Xmas decorative material, and boxes also toilet and miscellaneous articles.

M. Brenner's store is gay with Christmas banners and colors with a window of toys and another of miscellaneous articles.

C. J. Hathaway has a good old Santa just going down a chimney, and is displaying jewelry and one window of hand-painted china.

Sorenson's furniture store is striking in appearance and attractiveness, one window displaying toys and another a handsome china cabinet surrounded with a variety of ornamental and useful articles, all nicely displayed.

The Grayling Mercantile Company is deserving considerable credit for two excellent window displays, showing artistic taste and care in arrangement. Christmas colors and holly wreaths are used for trimmings.

A snow storm in one of M. Simpson's windows is attracting considerable attention.

A Kraus & Son are working on their display and expect to have it ready tomorrow.

Olaf Sorenson & Sons are showing two Christmas trees covered with glistening snow and showing Christmas boxes of cigars.

The Central Drug store is trimmed in red and green showing many handsome and useful articles.

Red and green lattice work with a nice showing of shoes at J. O. Goudrows.

Mose was down to Roscommon one night last week and in coming home he rode back on Coyle's private car while Johnnie and Carl rode in a seat of an ordinary coach. With a nice comfortable platform to stand on and convenient places to hang onto, with a borrowed overcoat that was only four sizes too small for him and had to button every other button, and the wind whistling around the forty mile mark, Mose gracefully occupied the rear platform, while inside the door a big breakman was making signs at him of what he would do to him before the train stopped. So courteous was the train crew to Mose that they didn't even take up his fare, but they gave him a punch with a pair of number nines and would have given him more but for the fact that Mose was anxious to be among his friends in Grayling and jumped off the train before it stopped.

Christmas Customs.

It is interesting to trace the origin of festival customs to those connected with Druidical superstitions of classic observances, and it will surprise many to learn that present-day sports very closely resemble the celebrations observed of old in honor of Saturn or Bacchus.

The Roman Saturnalia, which occurred in the winter solstice, were a season of great festivity and rejoicing, honored by many privileges and exemptions. The spirit of gaiety and free charter, and even quarrels were suspended, to be resumed after the holidays.

As a manifestation of the gratitude felt at the renewed prospects of the returning march of the sun, gifts were exchanged and special hymns were sung. These latter were really the Roman representatives of the modern carol.

At the Saturnalia the Roman feasted, sang and danced, as we do at Christmas. A ruler or king was appointed, who enjoyed certain prerogatives. He presided over the sports of the season. Probably he is the ancestor of the lord of misrule, who exercised a similar power in more recent times.

Merriment was a matter of general concern, and the joyous spirit of entire districts is now narrowed to family parties.

It is the touch that makes the whole world kin, and it is a pleasant reminder that, after all, history repeats itself.

Not Blessed.

The presents you forget to give to others who don't forget to give to you are not so blessed.

Scientist Gone Astray.

The serpent is even wiser than the woman tells us, according to Professor Maynard, the noted educator of Cambridge, Mass. In a startling statement the professor declared that as a result of study of snakes he is convinced that had they been able to develop hands and feet instead of being obliged to crawl their brains would have enabled them to dominate the world.

In that event, he asserts, man probably would have remained in a primitive savage state, or possibly even as

Neighborhood News**Lovell's Locals.**

T. E. Douglas was in Lewistown Saturday.

John Tobin of Grayling was in town recently.

Jos. Simms was at the county seat one day recently.

Leo Schram of Grayling was a caller on Saturday last.

T. E. Douglas made a trip to Grayling one day last week.

Misses Macy and Margaret Douglas are spending a few days in Grayling.

Mrs. Loxo, who was reported as being on the sick list last week is able to be out again.

We have had so many warm rains of late that the snow is almost gone. Somehow we feel as though we have had enough winter and welcome bare ground again.

Friends of Mrs. D. Shibley gave her a birthday surprise on Saturday evening. The evening was spent in dancing after which a tuck was served. A good time is reported.

Mrs. Wm. Marsh left on Monday

for Big Rapids, where she will be the guest of her son James, who is a student at the Ferris Institute and who completes his course about the holidays.

V. E. S. Houghton was called to Cass City one day last week to the bedside of his father, who is in a critical condition. He found him a trifle improved, but says that his death is expected at any time.

Twenty of our young people enjoyed a lengthy sleighride on Tuesday evening after which they enjoyed a delicious lunch which was served by the ladies of the party at the cozy home of Mr. and Mrs. E. Pierce.

The boarding house is re-opened under the management of Mrs. Jos. Doby and her daughter, Mrs. Nephew. As T. E. Douglas has started to rebuild the mill, undoubtedly they will have as many boarders as they can accommodate.

Tommy.**Beaver Creek Breezes.**

Mrs. Geo. Annis is feeling fine again.

Mr. John Hanna was in Roscommon Saturday.

Mrs. Henry Moon has been ailing at her home for the past few weeks.

Mrs. Geo. Annis was real glad of

the surprise by her cousin, who made them a visit from the south.

Wm. Moon, Albert Moon and John Hanna have gone to Flint to secure work for the winter. Hope to see them in the spring.

Miss Ida Durham spent Thanksgiving at Fife Lake. On her return she was accompanied by Miss Hastings. Miss Hastings is quite a musician and has been giving the school children a great deal of pleasure with her music.

Halsey Miller, a resident of Beaver Creek, was buried Friday. Mr. Miller had been ill for some time and his death was not unexpected. He was a member of the 11th Infantry of Michigan. He had for many years lived with Mr. J. C. Felling.

There was a surprise party given by Miss Mable Moon and Mrs. Geo. Annis on Mr. Ralph Newman last Tuesday evening in honor of his birthday. Had a taffy pull and a nice sociable visit and all returned home saying they had a fine time. Mr. Newman was accompanied home to South Bend, Indiana, by his cousin, Homer Annis.

Random Shots.

It is reported that "Grandpa" Stephan, living near Stephan's bridge, is very ill. He is at present

with his daughter, Mrs. R. S. Babbitt.

Miss Hamilton, Miss Schreiber and A. W. were callers at the Ernie Babbitt home near Wakely's bridge last Sunday. Miss Danforth and Mr. Terhune "dropped in" later.

A quiet little farewell party was given at the Schreiber home, at Sigbee, last Friday evening in honor of Miss Mary Forbush, who has finished her term of school in the Stephan's district. Music and games were the order of the evening. Miss Forbush has won many friends during her short stay among us. Our good wishes follow her.

A POOR MARESMAN.**Notice.**

The annual meeting of stock-holders of Grayling Opera House company will be held at opera house 7:30 p. m., January 9th 1912.

J. F. HUM, F. NARRIN,
 President. Secretary.

A Rare Figure.

A hero who is not his own horn-blower is a rare and inspiring figure in the modern world.

Most Valuable Fishing Industry. The fishing industry of the United States is valued at more than that of any other country.

Christmas Time IS The Present Time

Jewelry--The Gift of Gifts

All ready for you
ANY DAY NOW

Advance Shopping

All you people know the benefits of early Shopping.

You know you miss the crowds and all that sort of inconvenience.

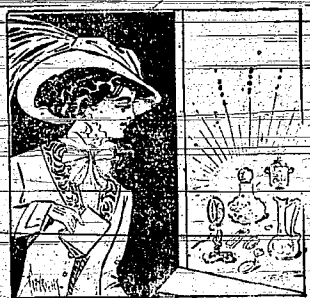
You know how much easier it is to exactly suit yourself, when all lines are almost untouched.

Then why not take advantage of these advantages?

Our stock is at this minute complete from collar buttons to diamonds. It comprises the worthiest goods that we could buy with our money or that you can buy with yours.

You can make your selection now at your leisure, and by paying a small deposit may have them laid aside for you until the "eventful day."

YOU are invited to avail yourself of this privilege.

**Great Fascination**

clings to the Jeweler's window. All the fair sex stop to see the exhibit, and many of the masculine element who have the time. It is agreed by all

That this Jewelry Store

gets the prize for the finest stock of handsome ornaments and sterling silver novelties. Our watches are celebrated as good-time pieces and our table ware is warranted not to tarnish. Inspection of all lines cordially invited.

**Christmas Time**

is always the "present" time and if you want to give some friend or loved one "a good time" buy the watch here and you will succeed.

Our Diamonds and Watches

are of the finest quality and will pass the most rigid test that experts can subject them to. We carry a large variety of gold and silver ornaments that are suitable for Christmas gifts for any age.

**The Picture of Santa Claus**

is enthroned in our hearts from childhood days. A young lady likes her sweetheart's picture in a locket. Our special line of lockets, chains, bracelets, rings and pins, all appeal to the fair sex.



The original Rogers' silver plate, first produced over 20 years ago. We carry a good line of various styles of this famous "Silver Plate that Years" and invite your inspection.

**A Pretty Picture**

doesn't come by chance--design, grouping, finish, all play their parts.

Locket, Bracelets, Chains

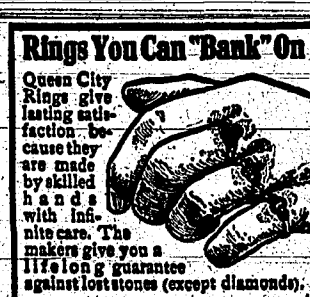
of charming design are the result of art and skill in fashioning. All these meet and blend in unison in our handsome Jewelry Display. For the correct thing see us. All goods warranted.

**Among our Glassware**

are to be found many handsome and serviceable gifts. If you like to give something that will remind the recipient of you constantly come and choose from our

Dainty Glassware

You can select either sets or odd pieces at a cost which you can limit to a ridiculously small sum if you are so inclined. But no matter how little you spend you will secure a gift anybody will be glad to receive.

**Rings You Can "Bank" On**

Queen City Rings give lasting satisfaction because they are made by skilled hands with intense care. The makers give you a life long guarantee against loss (except diamonds).

SOLID GOLD**Guaranteed Rings**

can be had in over 2000 choice designs, for men, women and children. From \$2.00 up. Look for Q. C. stamp inside each ring. Call and get free birthstone card.

Keep your feet dry and warm WITH A PAIR OF OUR GOOD Sensible Shoes

We have a very good soft leather shoe

that insures comfort, durability and wearing quality.

They are soft and pliable and will not hurt the tenderest feet.

We also have shoes for Ladies and Children and can fit you in Style and Quality

Shoes for Lumber Camps

Woodsmen will find just what they want at this store.

Fine Line of Rubbers

We can fit your feet with good, serviceable rubbers. Don't wait until you get your feet wet and catch cold. Rubbers are cheaper than medicine.

Salling, Hanson Co.

A. Kraus & Son
 For
Christmas Shopping

SEE THEIR AD HERE NEXT WEEK FOR SPECIAL CHRISTMAS BARGAINS

Santa Claus will arrive Saturday, the 16. Meet him at the Depot. Santa will come to Grayling on the 2:15 train from the North Pole. He would like to have all the children meet him at the train and go with him to his headquarters. He has a letter for every little boy and girl, and would like to hear from every one of them, too. Santa will give an autograph-photo of himself to every one who meets him at the depot. Be sure to get one.

Watchmaker A. PETERSON Jeweler

X-Mas Bargains

December 15th to December 25th, 1911.

Outing-Flannel Blankets, \$4.50, cut to	\$3.75
Outing Flannel Blankets, \$2.00, cut to	1.50
Outing Flannel, 10c, cut to	8c
Apron Gingham, 9c, cut to	7c
Dress Gingham, 12 1/2c, cut to	9c
Prints, 7c, cut to	6c
Dress Goods at cut prices	
Children's Underwear, 25c, cut to	21c
Ladies' Hand Bags, good values, at cut prices	
Men's Sweaters, \$1.75, cut to	1.25
Boys' Sweaters, \$1.00, cut to	79c
Men's Woolen Shirts, \$1.00, cut to	85c
Boys' Woolen Shirts, 50c, cut to	39c
16 in. Leather Top Rubbers, \$3.75, cut to	3.00
12 in. Leather Top Rubbers, \$3.50, cut to	2.75
8 in. Leather Top Rubber, \$3.00, cut to	2.25
Ladies' Underskirts, all wool, \$1.00, cut to	79c
Men's Working Shoes, all sizes, per pair	1.00
Men's Fancy Shirts, \$1.00, cut to	79c
Men's Fancy Shirts, 50c, cut to	39c
Men's Low Rubbers, \$1.85, cut to	1.50

FOR CASH ONLY

M. SIMPSON

Queen Quality SHOE

SHOES FOR LADIES

THE SHOE OF BEAUTY

THE SHOE OF QUALITY

Excellent care taken to see that you will get
A PERFECT FIT

JOHN O. GOUDROW.

The Wise Bride.
"Yes, the girl gave the bride a
recommender shower."
"What in the world is that?"
"Why, they all told her how sorry
they were she was going to marry
such a man as the coming bride-
groom."
"That must have hurt her feelings."
"No, it didn't. She knew there
wasn't a girl there who wouldn't have
given her eyes to get him!"

REMEMBER SOME FRIEND
WITH SOME
Engraved Cards

They make the most
gentle and acceptable
Christmas Present that
can be imagined.

Orders received not later
than Dec. 16, for Christ-
mas delivery. But please,
don't wait, come in, and
leave your order to-day.
Special offer for X-Mas
trade-Beautiful engraved
script plate and hundred
cards, \$1.40

Avalanche Office

Farmers' Institute.
(Continued from first page.)
of persistent effort, the labor required
to keep the road in good condition
will not be as much as in the first few
years.
Mr. Clapp also talked of sheep hus-
bandry and potato growing for profit.
The business relations between city
and farmer was handled by Prosecu-
ting Attorney F. G. Walton.
Among other things, Mr. Walton
said: "There was a time when al-
most anyone could run a store on a
farm. Matters ran along in a loose
slipshod sort of a way, the people
were happy but very poor, both finan-
cially and in their business; but times
have changed since Grand-dad was a
boy.
The concentration of wealth, the
forming of great trusts and combines
for the carrying on of manufacturing,
commercial and industrial branches
of business along all lines; the great
influx of emigrants that usually help
to congest the cities, all together have
caused a great demand for food stuffs.
While it is necessary today that
the farmer have all of the funda-
mental principles of farming, the
knowledge of the soil, kind of seed to
plant and how to plant, cultivate and
harvest it yet, there is something
more necessary at this day and age.
He must have business ability and ap-
ply it. He must become better ac-
quainted with the city man and the
city man with him. He must, in a
sense, be a character reader and cul-
tivate friendship with all.
Organization has done much to
bring these two classes of business
into closer relationship. To live alone
makes one narrow-minded and biased;
to mingle with the world tempers the
mind and broadens the intellect.
Of all the class of business men,

the farmer is the hub and center. It
is he that furnishes all with the neces-
saries of life and while he is a laborer
he produces the wealth of the world."

WOMEN'S CONGRESS.

Wednesday, December 6th.
We are indebted to Mrs. S. N. Insley
for the following excellent write-up
of the Woman's congress of the Farm-
ers' Institute.

Meeting called to order by Mrs.
Carrie Feldhauser at 2:00 p. m. at G.
A. R. hall.

Attendance was not so large as in
former years, owing to bad roads and
some other unavoidable hindrances.
Mrs. Feldhauser, after explaining
the object of these women's sections
to Farmers' Institute, expressed re-
gret at the small attendance of
farmers' wives and daughters, and in-
troduced the conductor of the day's
meeting, Mrs. C. M. Barber of Lan-
sing.

The subject of Mrs. Barber's paper
was, "Feeding and care of children,"
and the capable manner in which it
was delivered showed long, careful
study of her topic, so much being
contained in every statement made.
Her thoughts were practical and sen-
sible, which being combined with an
excellent delivery made it one of the
best addresses ever given in Grayling.
The discussion following the paper
was an exchange of opinions as to old
and modern methods of caring for
children, and was freely discussed by
many present.

The next paper was read by Mrs. O.
P. Schumann, of Grayling, the topic
being, "The Christmas Spirit." In a
pleasing, forceful manner she gave
the history, the myths, the national
customs of the Christmas observance.
She compared the original spirit of
Christmas with that of today and
gave the true and false versions of
what constitutes the Christmas spirit.
The commercialism of the Ameri-
cans she blamed for the present con-
dition of our holiday sentiments, and
begged for a return to the true and
old way of enjoying our Christmas.

Mrs. Barber and Mrs. Schumann
consented to allow their papers to be
printed at a later date, that all the
ladies who were unfortunately detain-
ed from the meeting might read them.
Mrs. Deckrow then read an article
"You cannot escape the pirates on
land or sea," and gave occasion for
discussion to the farmer ladies present.

Election of officers then took place.
Mrs. N. Deckrow being elected chair-
man for the ensuing year. Meeting
closed to meet again at call of chair-
man.

These meetings are productive of
great good and it is only regrettable
that all our farmers couldn't attend.
We would also be glad to publish
the addresses in full, if this were
possible, but this would require more
space and greater facilities than we
at our disposal.

L. B. Merrill of Grayling, and Hugo
Schreiber Jr. of Pere Cheney, are presi-
dent and secretary, respectively, of
the county institute, and it is due to a
great extent to the enterprise of these
gentlemen that these meetings were a
success.

We would suggest that our farmers
let us know of good ideas that come to
them from time to time that we may
pass them along for the benefit of
others.

Holiday Fire Bulletin.

To all Fire Chiefs, Presidents of Vil-
lages, Clerks of Townships and
Deputy Fire Marshals:
Gentlemen: With the approach of
the Christmas holiday season, we are
remined of the great loss of life and
property annually occasioned at this
time thru the careless decoration of
store windows, Christmas trees in
homes and churches, and the reckless
handling of electric wiring; inflam-
mable materials, etc.

In order to reduce the disasters re-
sulting from the above, it is the desire
of the Department that all Deputy
Fire Marshals (which includes your-
self under the law) shall make an es-
pecial effort to carry into effect the
following regulations:

The use of tissue paper, excelsior,
straw, cotton and all other light and
especially inflammable materials in the
decoration of store windows where
there is an open gas jet, and in the
wrapping of electric light bulbs is
strictly prohibited, and you are re-
quested to particularly enforce this
provision. The decoration of Christ-
mas trees in public places with any of
the above materials, is considered a
crime by this Department, and you
are requested to urge the people of
your locality to refrain from its use in
that way.

The Department requests that this
Bulletin is given publicity in your local
papers, and that you, in your capacity
as Deputy Fire Marshal, exert your
best effort to the reduction of this
great fire hazard. Remember that a
policy of fire insurance is invalidated
if the terms thereof are varied in the
slightest degree by the assured, and
the careless handling of electric wire-
ing, or the use of known fire hazards,
has resulted in many a policy holder
losing his entire indemnity.

If you want to reduce the cost of
your fire insurance, you must begin
by reducing your fire hazard.
I trust you will make an especial
effort towards carrying out the above
suggestions.

Very truly yours,
G. A. PALMER.

\$10.00 Reward

for evidence that will convict the
boys who smashed the windows in my
barn near the Dowd factory.
G. A. PALMER.

Christmas Legends

ALL around the season of
the Coming of Love as
a little child there have
sprung legends and be-
liefs, like blossoms in
a gracious clime, which testify with
subtlety to the depth of the appeal of
the birth of Christ. Here divinely
spiritual symbolism and there sweet
human tenderness and pathos appear,
and, blended, they evidence the world's
belief that this was both Son of Man
and Son of God.

An Irish legend tells that, on Christ-
mas eve, the Christ-child wanders out
in the darkness and cold, and the
peasants still put lighted candles in
their windows to guide the sacred lit-
tle feet, that they may not stumble on
their way to their homes. And in
Hungary the people go yet further in
their tenderness for the Child; they
spread feasts and leave their doors
open that He may enter at His will,
while throughout Christendom there is
a belief that no evil can touch any
child who is born on Christmas eve.

The legend which tells how the very
hay which lined the manger in which
the Holy Babe was laid put forth liv-
ing red blossoms at midwinter at the
touch of the Babe's body could only
have arisen from belief in the renewal
of life through the Lord of Life.

The Holy Thorn.
It is not so many centuries
ago since there was that holy
thorn at Glastonbury which
blossomed every Christmas, and so
ran the legend, had done ever since
St. Joseph of Arimathea, having come
as a pilgrim to Britain, and, landing at
Glastonbury, had stuck his staff of dry
hawthorn into the soil, commanding it
to put forth leaves and blossoms. The
obedient staff was so true that every
year the young converted to the Chris-
tian faith, the faith which preached
life from death.

The holy thorn of Glastonbury flour-
ished during the centuries until the
civil wars. During those times it was up-
rooted; but several persons had had
trees growing from cuttings from the
original tree, and these continued to
bloom at the Christmas season, just as
their parent, which had grown from
St. Joseph's staff, had bloomed. And
about the middle of the 18th century
it was recorded in the Gentlemen's
Magazine how the famous holy thorn
would not deign to recognize the new
style calendar, which had then come
into force but would persist in blos-
soming as of old on old Christmas
day.

In those days the anniversary of the
advent of the Babe had certainly
meant more to the common people
than merely a time for feasting and
revelry, for giving and receiving; it
had been also a season for holy ob-
servances, for they refused to go to
church on New Christmas day, the
holy thorn not being then in blossom.
So serious became the trouble that the
clergy found it prudent to announce
that Old Christmas day should also
be kept sacred as before. Only an-
other story of men's weak, superstitious
minds? True, perhaps; but they
are better who evidence some spiritual
weakness than those who wallow in
the worldly material, and when we
cease to be careful of the cup and the
plate, we become not over careful of
their contents.

The First Christmas Rose.
NOTHER of those spiritual
parables is the legend
of the Christmas rose, and it
tells how good things, at for giving,
spring up ready to the hand which
earnestly desires to give to the Child.
It is said that a certain maiden of
Bethlehem was so poor that she had
nothing to give to the Babe to whom
kings brought wealth from afar, and
as she stood, longing and mourning,
and angel appeared to her, saying:
"Look at thy feet, beneath the snow,"
and lo! on obeying the maiden found
that a new flower had miraculously
sprung up and blossomed at her needs.

Every since then, runs this story, this
flower, which with its snowy petals
just touched, suggest an open cup
bloom, is to be found at this season;
and, indeed, its half-opened cups, as
like chalices of love, and its fully-
spread petals are like a happy inno-
cent of symbols for the gifts for the
Babe of spotless innocence, whose
heart was the vessel of love.

Christmas Eve Legends.
THERE are several interest-
ing legends concerning
Christmas Eve, which are heard
ringing from buried cities and villages
at this season. One belongs to a vil-
lage near Raleigh, in Nottingham-
shire, and the story runs that once,
where there is now but a valley, there
was a village which, with every trace
of life and habitation, had been swal-
lowed by an earthquake; but ever
since, at Christmas, the bells of the
buried church are heard to ring as of
old.

A similar legend is told of Preston,
in Lancashire, and yet another and
more moving one comes from the
Netherlands. It is said that the city
of Beem was notorious for its black-
and shameless sins, as well as re-
nowned for its beauty and magnifi-
cence. To the Sodom of the middle
ages, came our Savior on one anni-
versary of his birth, and went to a
beggar from door to door, but not one
in all that Christmas, keeping city
gave the Master of the abundance. Sin
he saw rampant on every side; but not

a trace of Christmas bounty and good
will, and he called to the sea, which,
as of old, obeyed his voice, and Beem,
the city of sin, was buried deep, clean
out of sight beneath the waves. But
ever at Christmas up from beneath the
covering waters come the sweet call-
ing of church bells buried in Beem. It
is a legend which appears to tell in
parable that nothing which ever be-
longed to the Christ, and was dedi-
cated to his service, is ever wholly lost
from him and alienated from service;
that ever and again something of their
inherent beauty and compelling sweet-
ness rises from the depths through all
seeming ruins.

The Manger.

RADITION declares that
within the stone manger
there was another one
of wood, and that the stone cradle in
the Chapel of the Nativity is, indeed,
the manger. Splendid is that
humble stone trough now with white
marble, gaily rich with costly drap-
eries, and radiant with a silver star,
which is surrounded by 18 lamps, ever
burning. But yet more glorious is the
wooden manger at Rome, held to be
the veritable manger in which the
Christ-child lay. It was removed to
Rome in the seventh century, during
the Mohammedan invasion of the Holy
Land, and there it is preserved in a
strong brazen chest, from which it is
brought forth on Christmas days,
when it is placed on the Grand Altar.
It is mounted upon a stand of silver,
which is inlaid with gold and gems,
and the shrine in which it rests is of
purest rock crystal. In the days in
which this was accomplished, men,
whatsoever may have been their
shortcomings in other directions, gave
magnificently to the Church-Visible.

Christmas Bells.

RADITION says that the
hour of the Babe's birth
was the hour of midnight,
and legend adds that from then until
dawn cocks crow. In Ireland it is
held that those who look into a mirror on
this eve will see the devil or Judas
Ischariot looking over his shoulder,
surely thought sufficient to drive the
hardest soul to a thought of the inno-
cent Babe.

Another legend tells that, on Christ-
mas eve, Judas Ischariot is released
from that hell—"his own place"—and
is allowed to return to earth that he
may cool himself in icy waters.

Wild and improbable although such
and such legends appear on their
faces, they bear study and repay it,
for we then see that they are full of
subtle spiritual expression, as it were;
that they are parables of certain spiri-
tual facts, and it will be ill for us
should the Christmas day ever dawn
on which such flowers of tender faith
and wonder shall appear to us no
more than dry, curious specimens from
the dead roots of superstition.

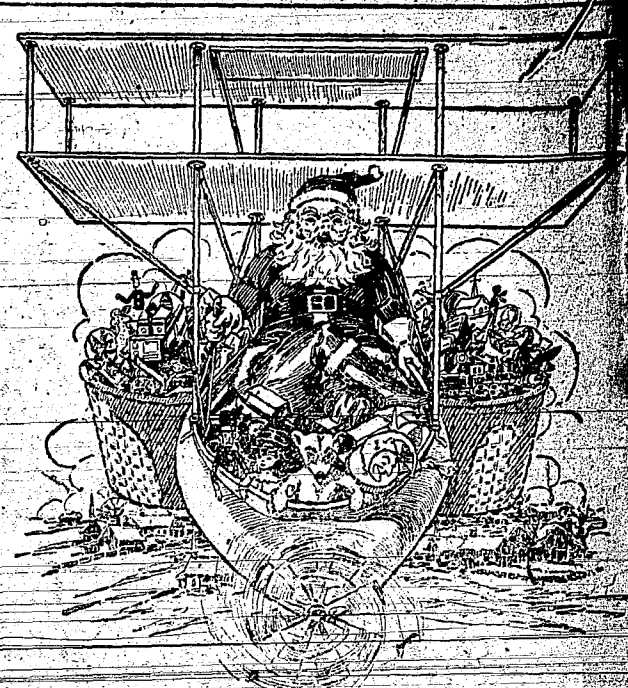
What Christmas Means.

Christmas means hope and
its realization. The child
grows eagerly expectant as
the time approaches for the
visit of Santa Claus. While
this action remains unques-
tioned, the imagination
opens new and wider worlds,
and ideals become so much
a part of the mind that the prosaic
and commonplace can never crush
them. Until the youth reaches man-
hood and independence, Christmas is
the happiest day of the year. Its gift
and hearty good cheer impress family
affection, parental thoughtfulness and
brotherly love. The dullest and most
irrespective of fathers and mothers
are uplifted to a vision of higher life
by the interchanges of souvenirs and
the mere meeting with children and
grandchildren at the table and fire-
side. Few can escape and still enjoy
the meaning of the festival, the less-
sons it conveys and the inspiration
it gives, and we enter upon a brighter
future and a fuller appreciation of the
beneficence of the practice of faith,
hope and charity. The loved ones
who have crossed to the other side,
the loved near and far who are still
with us, the old homestead with its
precious memories, the old church
whose sacred associations tie together
childhood; maturity and age, love,
marriage and death; the schoolhouse
where the beginnings of education
were so painful, and the ever-increas-
ing pleasures of the pursuit of learn-
ing through the high school, academy
and college are recalled and recited,
and there the exquisite delight in these
old tales, and new experiences en-
liven this blessed anniversary. Les-
lie's Weekly.

First Christmas Observance.

Christmas gets its name
from the mass celebrated
in the early days of the
Christian church in honor
of the birth of Christ, its
first solemnization having
been ordered by Pope
Telephorus. This was in
or before the year 133, for
in that year Pope Tele-
phorus died.

At first Christmas was what is
known as a movable feast, just as
Easter is now, and owing to misun-
derstandings was celebrated as late as
April or May. In the fourth century
an ecclesiastical investigation was or-
dered, and upon the authority of the
tables of the consens in the Roman
archives December 25 was agreed up-
on as the date of the Savior's nati-
vity. Tradition fixes the hour of birth
at about midnight, and this led to the
celebration of a midnight mass. In all
the churches, a second at dawn and a
third in the later morning.



Christmas Will soon be here

Things look like Christmas; indeed they do in
our store. Christmas merchandise, also, was
never arrayed in a more fascinating display
and plenitude. Extra sales people have been
provided for to serve you in the best possible
manner. Presents suitable for old and young.
Here is an interesting assortment of gift ar-
ticles, which are very acceptable:

FOR GENTLEMEN:	FOR LADIES:
Wine Sets	Vases, Glass and China
Mustache Cups	Stationery
Shaving Mugs	Parlor Lamps
Smoker Sets	Water Sets
Tobacco Jars	Salt & Pepper Shakers
Necktie Boxes	Sugar Shakers
Necktie Racks	Sugar & Creamer Sets
Clothes Brushes, in sets	Cake Plates
Pipe Racks	Berry Sets
Shaving Sets	Bread & Butter Plates
Ink Wells	Plates for Plateshelves
Traveling Sets	Stems for
Collar and Cuff Boxes	Hat Pin Holders

The above are only a few things taken from
our large display; there are many other good
things suitable for both Ladies and Gentle-
men, for old and young, such as Photo Frame
Pictures, Paper Weights, Fountain Pens, Rug-
large or small, Books, Lace Curtains, Portieres,
Couch Covers, Carpet Sweepers, Couches,
Chairs, Rockers, Tables and furniture of all
description. Christmas Toys for the little
folks, a large variety suitable for all ages,
Dolls, Musical Toys, Rubber Balls, Games,
Tea Sets, Stoves, Doll Furniture, Tables and
Chairs, Black Boards, Rocking Horses, Air
Rifles, Sleighs, etc. For the baby we have
Drinking Cups, Rattles, Rubber Dolls, Rag
Dolls, Cutter Robes and many other things.

Our Bargain Counter

offers an unusually large lot of good values;
many of the reductions are considerably below
cost, and affords an opportunity to buy Christ-
mas Presents now on the basis of the custom-
ary price after Christmas reduction.

Remember, it's rush time now with Gift
Buyers. Shop early and avoid
disappointments

Sorenson Furniture Store



WHETHER you live in the city or country, you'll find no. 22 caliber repeating rifle like the
Marlin Model 100.
For the city man it is a perfect companion for the vacation or outing trip. It's light, takes down
and packs in a small space. The ammunition is inexpensive. The gun can be used with 22 short
for target and is equally capable of handling 22 long or long-range cartridges without change
of mechanism.
On the farm the rifle is a necessity. The short cartridge is sufficient for squirrels, quails and
small game and the long-range cartridge makes the Marlin Model 100 a distinctive weapon for
game, foxes, hares, etc. up to 200 yards.
The Marlin Model 100 is 130 pages, with handsome art covers, is full of up-to-date
information for all gun lovers and gives full description of all Marlin repeaters. It's
a book for a stamp collector.
42 Willow St., New Haven, Conn.

FANCY CALENDAR PADS FOR SALE AT
THIS OFFICE FOR THE
Year 1912



CHRISTMAS



Week from next Monday

Only ten Days left for Gift Buying

This Store with its vast variety of gifts affords the best possible advantages for Quick Selection of Worthy Christmas Remembrances

Chafing Dishes

A display of the latest achievements. Varieties from a beautiful inexpensive one to a complete outfit of all brass and copper, with latest generating burner and silver plated spoon and forks, with copper and ebony handle. Any young lady could be made glad with our Chafing dishes.

Sterling Silver

Fine assortment of plain and Sterling Silver Ware. TOILET SETS, MILITARY SETS, SHAVING OUTFITS, all the latest novelties for the holidays.

Beautiful Array of Cut Glass.

Carving Sets

Fine Ebony and hammered brass handles

Perfumes

We have all the odors in a variety of handsome packages. These always make handsome presents

Christmas Post Cards in endless variety

Thermos and Janus Bottles

We have a fine assortment; small ones for individual use, to large ones for family use, nickel plated, beautiful and useful, will keep liquids, hot or cold, for many hours.

For Christmas Cigars, Pipes and Smokers Articles

We are headquarters. A nice box of Cigars for father, brother and friend, also Smokers Brass Goods and Humidors

Hot Water Bottles and Electric Heating Pads

Brushes

Clothes and Hat Brushes, Sterling Silver Hair Brushes, Hand Mirrors and Dressing Mirrors, from 50c to \$6.00

Hand Bags

All the latest styles of Hand Bags to suit the most fastidious tastes; All kinds of leathers, and sterling silver and gold mountings

Candies

In plain and fancy boxes, and in bulk

Refreshing Drinks

While doing your Christmas shopping visit our Soda Fountain for delicious Ice Cream and Hot Drinks.

Box Paper and Art Calendars

Box Paper 35c, and large hand decorated art picture with each box

Our Store was never before so beautifully arrayed with Holiday Goods. Come early and get first choice. Prompt and courteous service

THE CENTRAL DRUG STORE

Your Breakfast Will taste better

IF YOU WILL ORDER SOME OF OUR NICE

BACON AND FRESH EGGS

To begin with, we always buy the choicest meats, than besides we know just how to put them up for you, so that they will look nice and taste better. Send your next order to this market.

Each purchase of 10c gets you a ticket that is good for a chance on a set of dishes

Ground green bones for your chickens

We have just installed a green bone grinder and can furnish this excellent egg-producer at 10 pounds for 25c

Tickets number 706, buff, and 367 white, are the lucky numbers to win sets of dishes. Bring in the numbers.

Guy W. Slade

Additional Local News

An Avalanche in the hand or home is a token of good citizenship.

Mr. J. Malec, of Maple Forest township, will leave Monday, December 18th, for near Marquette to work in the woods for the winter.

The tax roll for the township of Grayling is in the hands of the township treasurer, M. Hanson. Taxes are due. Don't delay. Dec 14th

What is probably a new record for Grayling is in the hands of the township treasurer, M. Hanson. Taxes are due. Don't delay. Dec 14th

There is great danger of fires from Christmas decorations and we wish to warn our people to be careful. Losses sustained by fires from reasons prohibited by the State Fire Marshall cannot be held against the insurance companies. On the sixth page in this paper, we publish these laws that our readers may be familiar with them.

Class No. eight of the Presbyterian Sunday school was entertained last Friday evening by Edna Rasmussen. New business for the month was the planning for a candy sale at the Company's store Saturday afternoon and evening. The hostess served a dainty lunch, after which the girls worked very busily with their needles.

Hubbard Head of Roscommon has been in Orion for the past six weeks taking treatment for cancer, which had to be removed. He figured home last week to settle up some business matters and will go south for the winter. We hope that he will speedily recover from his illness and enjoy his stay in the sunny south.

Mrs. Sje Duryea, of Detroit, returned last Saturday to Grayling where she expects to again make her home, we understand. She is expecting her mother, Mrs. Pastman, to join her sometime next week.

"Santa Claus" will be here from the north pole Saturday, December 16th, on train No. 206. We want all the children to be there to meet him at the depot as he will have something for them. Also grown-ups are invited. Don't miss it.

James E. Kellogg, who has been managing the Keuhl farm in Maple Forest, is now operating his own farm of several hundred acres and is planting fruit trees. He set out 180 trees last fall and has ordered 250 fruit trees for spring planting. Kellogg knows a good thing when he sees it. Without question this is going to be one of the greatest fruit sections in fruit Michigan. He purchased the trees of J. H. Tobin and says that they are the finest stock he ever saw.

We have just closed a deal for a limited quantity of the finest assortment of Christmas and New Year post cards, tags, seals and stickers ever collected. The decorative emblems will enhance the attractiveness of your gifts, while the beautiful Holiday post cards will make a pleasing remembrance to friends to whom you do not give presents. The assortment contains the following, all in gold and beautiful colors: 50 maple leaf seals, 50 Santa Claus seals, 12 Christmas stamps, 12 small cards and tags, 5 medium tags, 6 imported Christmas Greeting cards, 4 imported embossed cards, 15 Christmas post cards, 5 New Year post cards, one 1912 fancy colored calendar 3 1/2 by 16 1/2 inches; 160 pieces in all, worth \$1.00. We will give this collection free with a subscription to the Avalanche and Michigan Farmer for \$2.25. This means \$3.50 worth for \$2.25.

Halsey Miller Passes Away.

On Wednesday morning, December 10th, Halsey Miller passed quietly away at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Failing in Beaver Creek township. Deceased was born in Marshall, Calhoun county in 1844 where he lived until the breaking out of the Civil War. He enlisted in company B, 11th Michigan Infantry, August 24th, 1861, for three years, was 21 at Quincey, Michigan. He was made Corporal March, 1862, was taken prisoner at Stone River, Tennessee, January, 1863, paroled March, 1863, and mustered out at Sturgis, Michigan, September 30, 1864, after faithful service to his country.

He returned to his old home, remaining there till the winter of 1896, when he came to Crawford county with Mr. Failing. He has since made his home with them.

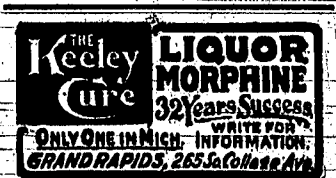
About four months ago he was taken with dropsy and heart weakness steadily declining till the end, which came without a struggle. Not much is known of his family except that he has a sister, Mrs. Retta Runyan in Quincy, Branch county. Funeral was held at the Failing home and the remains were laid away in the Beaver Creek cemetery.

Card of Thanks.

We wish to express our thanks to all who furnished flowers and assisted us during the illness and death of our friend, Halsey Miller.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Failing.

We will pay three cents a pound for clean cotton wiping rags. Avalanche.



CANDIES

Prices range from 25c per box up to \$10.00 a box

We can show you some delicious things in the CONFECTIONERY LINE.

PIPES

A good Pipe for 25c and better ones up to a Swell Meerschaum for \$6.00

CIGARS

Christmas Boxes, just the thing for some friend who smokes From 50c a box Up to \$4.00 a Box

While doing your Christmas shopping visit OUR SODA FOUNTAIN for delicious hot and cold drinks, also hot Bouillon and Beef Tea

Olaf Sorenson & Sons



Buy Your Christmas Presents AT OUR STORE

We have a fine line and our prices are low. Gifts pricing from 10c to \$15.00. Perfumery from 10c to \$5.00. Ladies Hand Bags, Toilet Sets, pretty hand painted Calendars, Cigars in Christmas boxes for the Gentlemen, Box Candy, Tinsel, Bells, etc. for decorating. Also a nice line of books.

A. M. LEWIS & CO.

Crawford Avalanche.

GRAYLING, THURSDAY, DEC. 14

Local and Neighborhood News.

Additional local news on page six.

Mrs. Wm. Hammond has returned from Bay City.

Specialty tonight at opera house. Guess who it is.

A. M. Lewis & Co. have a line of Ladies' hand bags on exhibition.

Mrs. Sarah Ferguson of Writingsburg is visiting old friends in town.

Mrs. Crowley offers all her \$5 and \$6 hats at \$2.50, and \$3 and \$4 hats at \$1.50.

Come to opera house tonight and see George Ballinger specialize. You'll enjoy it.

Two beautiful goldfish in globe and vase given away with every \$10 cash trade at South Side Grocery.

New and second hand cutters for sale at Langevin's barn. Either single or double style. 9-7-14.

Chas. Amidon is entertaining a nephew, Mr. Elg of Owosso. They are taking in some of our good rabbit hunting.

Carl Peterson is in Johannesburg this week with a stock of jewelry which he has on display at the City Drug Store.

Genuine holly wreaths all ready to hang up in your windows or for decorating, twenty cents each at Olaf Sorenson & Sons.

The Little Blue club met with Ruby Olson Saturday afternoon and spent a most happy time. Ice cream and cake was served.

Sailing, Hanson Company are ready to book your order for coal for the coming winter. Order now to insure prompt delivery.

Without the door let sorrow lie. And if for cold it hath to die, We'll bury it in a Christmas pie, And ever more be merry.

MONDAY, BAKERY.

Crawford Grange will elect officers at their next meeting, December 16th. A full attendance is desired as there is very important business which interests everyone, come early.

We want your orders for spring cutters, Portland cutters and cutter gears; bobbleheads, buggies and spring wagons; gasoline engines and cream separators. A nice line on hand and it will pay you to come in and look these over. Wm. McCullough.

Daniel Hayward, who had been working for W. C. Johnson, Pere Cheney, was found dead in bed one morning last week. He was 74 years old and had been a resident of Beaver Creek for a number of years. Burial was held from Sorenson Bros. undertaking parlors last Tuesday and he was laid to rest in Elmwood cemetery.

The M. P. Card club was entertained by Mr. and Mrs. A. Brady last Monday evening. It proved one of the most enjoyable parties of the winter. First prizes were won by Mrs. S. Loader and S. S. Phelps Jr.; consolation prizes won by Mrs. C. Mork and R. W. Brink. Dainty refreshments were served after which the gentlemen indulged in a friendly smoke while the ladies visited.

Many pre-nuptial functions have been given in honor of Miss Eleanor Mellstrup. Among the hostesses being Mrs. Robert Hanson, who entertained with a linen shower Friday afternoon. Brides robes were used as the decoration. This idea being carried out with the linens, the cream being in the form of the roses. Miss Mellstrup received many beautiful pieces of linen from the guests.

Thos. Morell, of Chicago, who has been making his home for several months near Lovells, has returned to Chicago. Mr. Morell has been in charge of the purchasing department of the "Tip Top Inn" which is one of the large first class cafes in that city. He came here for his health and looks as well and healthy as any one, but as he likes this country so well, he expects to return next spring.

Be sure and hear Fred Alexander sing tonight in the play, "It's up to Freddie."

Misses Mary and Margaret Douglas of Lovells are spending a few days with friends here.

The Grayling Mercantile Company's store will be open every evening next week until nine o'clock.

Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Hanson have been spending a few days in Detroit. They returned this morning.

T. E. Douglas has started to rebuild his mill at Lovells. The old one was burned a few weeks ago.

All our \$5 and \$6 hats at \$2.50, and all \$3 and \$4 hats at \$1.50.

Mrs. CROWLEY.

Every thrifty buyer of holiday goods will find splendid offerings among our advertisements. Look for more next week.

All members of Rebekah lodge are requested to be present at a meeting tonight, Thursday. Important business to be transacted.

We guarantee every canary bird that we sell to be a good singer or we will refund the money.

SOUTH SIDE GROCERY.

Mrs. Harvey Anderson came from East Tawas last Saturday to join her husband, who is the new local telephone manager. They expect to go to housekeeping soon.

Big preparations are being made at Frederic for a grand masquerade ball on the night following Christmas, Tuesday. They say that everyone is invited and that strict order will be maintained.

David Shopenagons, our Indian friend, is ill at his home near the bridge. It is hardly believed that he can recover sufficiently to get out again. He is being well cared for by his granddaughter.

The postal authorities at Washington, recognizing the liability of postmasters to make mistakes and put letters in the wrong boxes while distributing mail, have fixed a penalty of \$200 for persons taking other than their own mail out of the postoffice and not returning it at once. The excuse that it is the postmaster's fault will not in the least extenuate the offense.

Will Lander, entertained the Junior class Tuesday evening, November 28. Many interesting stories were told of each one's experiences while earning a dollar for the class treasury. Special mention is made of saxophone duets by Reagan and Lander, also piano solos by Cornelia Mellstrup. Dainty refreshments were served by Mrs. Rosser, whom the young people pronounced a most hospitable hostess.

The Eastern Star met at their hall last night and initiated into their order Mrs. C. A. Whitney, Miss Florence Smith and Miss Lillian Bates. There was a good attendance of the members and several visitors were present. After the initiation a reception was held for Miss Eleanor Mellstrup, who was presented with a gift from the Star. Refreshments were served by the young ladies of the order.

James Griggs was arrested for drunkenness last Saturday night by Marshall Chas. Stannard. His examination was held last Monday before Justice McCullough when he pleaded guilty. He was sentenced to six days in jail with payment of costs. Griggs has been working in the woods near Sigma and came to Grayling last Saturday. He is subject to epileptic fits and this is probably what got him into trouble. A soufflé occurred while taking him to jail and he got one of Mr. Stannard's fingers into his mouth, biting it to the bone.

The sample copies of this paper that we are sending out during the holiday season are producing more new subscribers than we had hoped for. We wish to say to those who are not familiar with the Avalanche that many good things are in store for subscribers during the coming year. We probably won't have quite as much interesting advertising as we are having during this and next week, but you are sure to get the news of our town and county, beside interesting write-ups of our manufacturing and business institutions and the names of men who have charge of the various departments.



Christmas Opening Only Nine More Days

Do you realize that there is a very short time left to do your Christmas shopping? We urge you to visit our store and inspect the various departments. Every Shelf and counter is loaded with practical gifts suitable for every member of the family.

We here quote a few of the numerous articles that are always acceptable:

For the Man	For the Lady	For the Boy	For the Girl
Fancy Ties, one in a box	Pretty Silk Waists	Shoes and Rubbers	Dresses
Fancy Suspenders, one pair in box	Skirts, Suits	Caps, Mitts, Ties	Furs, Mitts
Silk Scarfs, from 50c to \$2.50	Coats and Furs	Sweaters	Shoes
Knit Scarfs, 25c and 50c	Muslin Underwear	Underwear	Fancy Ribbons
Smoking Jackets	Bags and Purses	Suits	Knit Caps
Bath Robes	Silk Scarfs and Vests	Overcoats	Handkerchiefs
Gloves and Mittens, from 25c up	White Aprons	Sleeping Garments	Sweaters, Coats
Fancy Socks	Kinomos and Dressing Sacques	Hosiery	Stockings
Sweaters, Caps	Gloves and Mittens		Leggings
Hats, Shirts, Handkerchiefs	Handkerchiefs		
Suit Cases and Trunks	Napkins and Table Linen		
Suits and Overcoats	Drawn Work		

For the Baby

Bonnets, Bootees, Knit Caps and Sacques, Coats, Sweaters, Leggings

Hundreds of other articles that make presentable gifts. Bring your list, for not only will you find a larger and better selection, but we will save you money

GRAYLING MERCANTILE COMPANY

QUALITY STORE

Miss Gassel of Lewiston is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. M. Brenner.

Don't miss the home talent play tonight at the opera house. "It's up to Freddie."

Miss McMann of Detroit is spending the holiday season with her parents here.

Art goods for Christmas. Stamped linens and all colors in stock at Mrs. Crowley's.

Buy some of those holly boxes of A. M. Lewis & Co. They are fine to send presents in.

Mrs. Geo. L. Alexander returned Monday from a few days visit with friends in Saginaw.

Miss Rose Schreiber visited her sister, Mrs. R. Edmunds, in Maple Forest the first of the week.

Christmas Art goods. Stamped linens and all colors in stock at Mrs. Crowley's.

Don't fail to come tonight and see Ambrose Mellstrup at his best as "Freddie," the English dunder. He's great. At Opera house.

A number of our subscribers are in arrears with their subscriptions and we will be pleased to have them bring them up to date. Either call at this office or mail in their remittance. There are friendly ties and business ties.

And family ties by birth; But the kind of ties we advertise are the sweetest ties on earth.

At the Grayling Mercantile Co.

The Ladies Aid Society of the Danish Lutheran church was entertained Wednesday afternoon by Mr. Nels Michelson. Every year Mr. Michelson opens his beautiful home to this society and proves himself a royal host. All who were in attendance reported a very pleasant time.

Marguerite Chamberlain, assisted by Beattie McCullough, entertained the Seniors at her home Saturday evening. About nine-thirty the guests were given a sleigh ride to Portage Lake. Upon their return they were ushered to the dining room where a sumptuous banquet was served. The decorations were in pink and white, the glass colors. All report a very enjoyable time.

Don't criticize the butter, you may be old yourself someday.

Order your cream for Christmas now.

On the last page of this paper will be found a list of the donors to Grayling Mercy Hospital with the amounts they donated; also a statement of the expenditures of the same institution.

The wind storm of last Sunday night played havoc with our electric light wires, and for several nights our streets were in darkness. The telephone company escaped with little or no damage.

Sheriff Benedict has been very much "under the weather" for several weeks past, but is able to be up and around the jail. Rheumatism was the trouble. He is looking pretty feeble and has lost some of his adroit dupes.

We want your subscriptions for magazines and publications. We can give you the lowest possible clubbing offers. A nice way to remember a friend for Christmas—send them a year's subscription to some good magazine.

OLAF SORENSON & SONS.

Last week occurred the consolidation of two long and well established newspapers at Hastings, Mich. The Journal was started in 1868 and Herald in 1880. Both papers have been successful for these many years and have done a good work but it has long been realized neither could afford to give the people of that town a strictly up to date newspaper. The expense of running a newspaper these days is considerably greater than in the past, and the demand for enterprising progress has compelled the consolidation of many of our best newspapers. Muskegon has but one daily newspaper, Flint has but one, also Pontiac and Lansing. Hastings is a city of over 5,000 inhabitants and with the united support of her merchants and manufacturers, the Journal-Herald, for such the new paper is called, should give the people of that city a live and very interesting newspaper. John H. Dennis, the veteran editor of the Journal, has been named as president of the new company, and C. E. Fields, editor of the Herald, will be vice-president. The new firm has our best wishes.

Wm. McCullough is confined to his home by illness and under the doctor's care.

Miss Nellie Shanahan is the new operator at the telephone switchboard and the improvement in her service after one week is very preceptible. Her old position in the express office is being filled by Miss Angie Van Patten.

Emerson Bates, the hustling agent of this city for the Saturday Evening Post, has informed us that he won a two dollar prize for selling the most Posts in Michigan during the November contest. He was very glad to get the prize and hopes that he may be able to get some other prizes during the coming year.

NOW FOR EVERY DAY SERVICE

Our old reliable Market is prepared to serve you
FIRST CLASS

Nice
Juicy Steaks and Choppes
Cutlets, Roasts
The best Oysters that you can buy in Grayling
High Class Canned Goods

F. H. MILKS



Candy

During the holiday season we will have the greatest sale of Christmas Candies ever held in Grayling.

1000 Pounds

await your order. The assortment is complete. Don't forget some of our Rock Candy for the children.

We were fortunate in ordering our Christmas Candies during the past summer, before the advance of sugar and it cannot be purchased at double price to-day.

It has just arrived and we are ready to give our customers the benefit of low prices.

BRINK'S GROCERY

Christmas in Washington

By Edward B. Clark

CHRISTMAS in Washington is not altogether like the northern holiday, even though there be snow on the Potomac hills and in the low lying valley of the river itself. Here on the sunny slope of the White House lawn dandelion and the heartsease are Christmas blossoms, while the hollyhocks not infrequently show their white and blue to the sun on the banks confining Rock Creek.

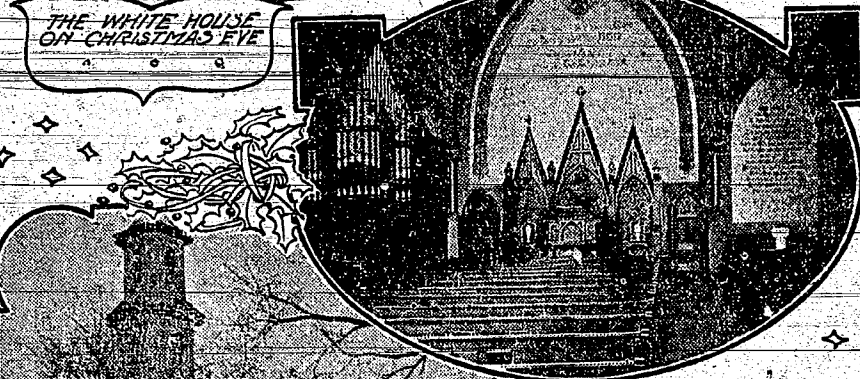
Christmas is a particularly genial season in Washington. There is enough of the southern atmosphere in the capital to make the holiday partake of the nature of the Christmas of the further south, for the annual day of Christ always has been given warm and exulting recognition in the country south of the Mason and Dixon line.

There are children in the White House at this holiday season as there were at through the administration of Mr. Taft's predecessor in office, Theodore Roosevelt. The president has three children at home with him to enjoy the holiday festivities in the House of State. It is true that of the three children one is just entering manhood and the other womanhood, while the third is just out of knickerbockers. Robert Taft, the president's oldest son, is home from college for the season's merrymaking, and his sister, Helen, is here also for the gayeties of the season. "Charlie" Taft has not outgrown the Christmas tree age and a Christmas tree he will have.

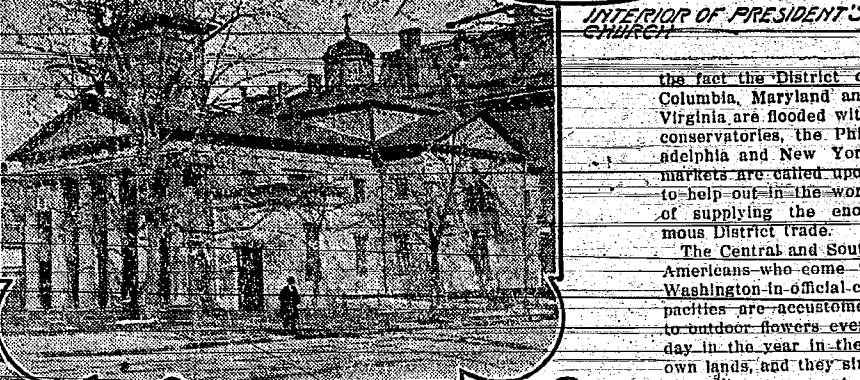
During the seven years of the Roosevelt administration, although there were five children in the White House, there was a Christmas tree only once. Mr. Roosevelt did not like the Christmas tree idea because he is a great believer in the conservation of the forests of the country and he held that the Christmas tree trade worked havoc with the supply of evergreens. So it was that while Christmas in the White House during his term of office was all that the holiday otherwise should be, the children were not allowed a tree. The youngest Roosevelt boy, however, had Christmas tree views of his own and once he secured one, trimmed it in seclusion and then hid it away in a closet where it was not discovered by his father, the president, until the Christmas season had pretty well waned.



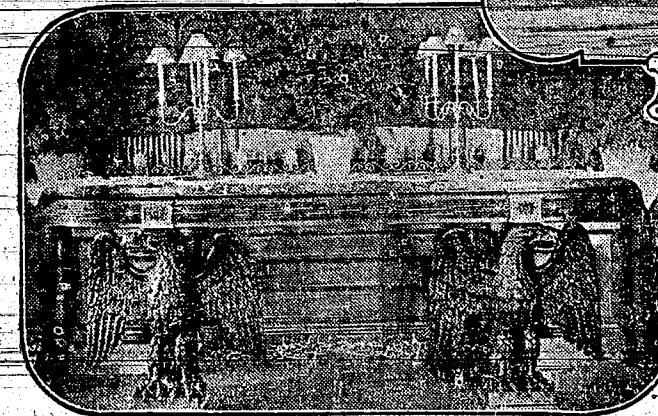
THE WHITE HOUSE ON CHRISTMAS EVE



INTERIOR OF PRESIDENT'S CHURCH



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH WHERE MRS. TAFT ATTENDS CHRISTMAS SERVICES



WHITE HOUSE SIDEBOARD FROM WHICH CHRISTMAS DINNER IS SERVED

A Christmas tree hereafter probably will be in evidence at the White House at every holiday. Mr. Taft need have no scruples on account of "forest devastation" because Clifford Pinchot, formerly chief forester of the government, has said that Christmas trees enough can be cut to supply the market demand without threatening the future supply. Mr. Pinchot believes in saving the trees, and he would not have issued this statement without proper study of the situation. He did not give out his edict, however, until the Roosevelt family had left the executive mansion and while the former chief forester is one of Colonel Roosevelt's intimate friends, it is probable that the Roosevelt children think that the verdict of Mr. Pinchot on the tree question ought not to have been so long delayed.

They play golf all winter in Washington, and if perchance there is snow on the ground they play the game with red balls instead of the ordinary white ones, and so when President Taft plays his holiday games he will not stand in any danger of forfeiting a stroke because of the loss of a golf ball. A red ball is a conspicuous mark against a white background.

Every employee of the White House receives a big Christmas turkey as a gift from the president and his wife. Some of the White House household servants and some of the members of the office force have been in the employment of presidents through many administrations. Col. William H. Crook, who is the executive clerk, has been in the service ever since Grant's day and recently he has written his reminiscences of White House life under eight presidents. Since the early Civil War days there have been children in the White House under nearly every administration, but whether or not there were children of the president's own families to gather about the fire and the Christmas tree, young people always found their way into the White House circle to help their elders celebrate the holiday.

Christmas parties for young people are always the regular order of things in the White House during the holiday season. The children of the cabinet officials, of the army and navy officers, of senators and representatives and of the diplomatists stationed here always are invited to a merry-making in the big west room.

Christmas is the great day in the household of the ambassadors and ministers from foreign countries and in the families of the juniors of the different embassies and legations. The representatives of southern European governments and of the countries of Central and South America make much of Christmas. Not an embassy or a legation in this town but keeps open house virtually during the entire holiday season. Gift giving among foreigners represented here is carried to an extreme at which even Americans, who give generously and are giving more generously and widely

each year, stand surprised. The Christmas receptions and parties given by the foreigners are not given as a treat on Christmas day. They recognize that the holiday proper is essentially a home day, the day when the family likes to "be a party unto itself." So it is that the affairs to which society and society's children are hidden usually take place between Christmas and New Year's, although in every particular they are Christmas gatherings.

For two weeks prior to the dawning of Christmas day the Washington markets are filled with holly and mistletoe. It is believed that before long the legislatures of Maryland and Virginia will be forced to pass laws protecting the beautiful holly tree from the hands of the despoiler. The demand for Christmas greens yearly kills hundreds if not thousands of holly trees. The trouble is that the men who cut the branches for the market use little or no discretion in securing their spoils. Holly branches can be cut without injury to the tree if the simplest precautions are taken, but in their greed to secure quantities of the beautiful boughs with their shining green leaves and polished red berries, the gatherers hack great limbs from the tree, injuring it so that in many cases it cannot survive the wound.

The mistletoe, which is found in great quantities in the markets of Washington at the Christmas time, is a parasite which fastens itself upon many of them as a parasite which fastens itself upon the branches of many species of trees. The removal does the tree good, provided the limbs from which it springs are not injured in the cutting. The mistletoe of the Potomac river country is very much like the parasite growth was used by the ancient Druids in their religious ceremonies among the ancient Britons. All kinds of superstitions are connected with the mistletoe, and many of them are traced back to the days before the Saxon occupation of John Bull's island. These superstitions were brought across the water by the early English settlers, and they are found in some parts of America in the same form in which they have existed in England for century on century.

The White House in a holiday season literally is turned into a conservatory. Washington loves flowers and every man and woman who comes here to live finds that the flower affection speedily takes its hold. The White House is supplied with flowers from a great conservatory carefully tended by men trained to floriculture. There are probably more flower shops in the capital in proportion to the population than in any other city in the United States. Almost literally they are on every corner. The demand for flowers here at the Christmas season is such that notwithstanding

the fact the 'District' of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia are flooded with conservatories, the Philadelphia and New York markets are called upon to help out in the work of supplying the enormous District trade.

The Central and South American who come to Washington in official capacities are accustomed to outdoor flowers every day in the year in their own lands, and they simply will not consent to get along without flowers in this northern clime. Their houses resemble conservatories all through the winter months, but at the Christmas season the Spanish-American literally banks himself and his family with blossoms.

President Taft attends Christmas service at All Souls-Unitarian church. Mrs. Taft is an Episcopalian and with her children she attends St. John's church on Lafayette square, known half humorously in Washington as the Church of State. It is so called because so many of the presidents of the United States have worshipped regularly within its walls. St. John's is a small church, but it has

fine music, and the Christmas service and its vicinities are made as beautiful as it is possible to make them.

In the official foreign colony in Washington the Christmas holidays are an especially lively and joyous season. The managers of the American branch offices of the governments of the world are ever eager to show their patriotism and loyalty by observing all holidays or ceremonial occasions just as they would be observed if they were at home in their own countries. Consequently Christmas is the occasion for many diverse and picturesque celebrations in the homes of the official foreign colony. There is scarce a household in the cosmopolitan community that has not its quota of children. Many of the young people in these foreign households are for the time being attending American schools and have become imbued with some of the traditions of the Yankee Christmas. Thus the yuletide programs in many a diplomatic home at Washington presents an odd mixture of foreign customs and American innovations.

Especially is this the case in the homes of many of the diplomats from South and Central America, where there are many young people. These Pan-American juveniles exchange presents as do the American playmates and await with keen anticipation the proverbial Christmas dinner, but they also show allegiance to the customs of their native lands by attending mass at midnight on Christmas Eve, and afterward paying homage at a miniature representation of the city of Bethlehem, the most conspicuous place in which is occupied by a grotto in which are tiny figures of the infant Jesus, and Joseph, together with the three wise men. In the homes of the Mexican diplomats there is followed a novel plan for the distribution of the Christmas presents. All the gifts are placed in a huge earthenware jar which is suspended from the ceiling and is then attached by all the young people armed with caues. When the jar is broken the Christmas presents are precipitated to the floor and there is a mad scramble for the mysterious packages.

The handsome new home of the French Embassy at Washington will this year afford a spacious setting for a Christmas frolic that has become one of the important events of holiday week at the capital. At the German Embassy likewise there is a Christmas tree with tokens for all the young people in the Embassy circle, while the British Ambassador entertains all the members of his official staff and their families at an old-fashioned English Christmas dinner.

The Bethlehem of today may be larger and may contain perhaps a few buildings of more modern construction than at the time of the birth of the Savior, but to all intents and purposes it is the Bethlehem of Jesus' infancy. It requires no great stretch of the imagination to picture it again with the actors in the event of nineteen hundred years ago, while the associations impart to the ceremonies, conducted in connection with its celebration a solemnity and a sentiment that is peculiarly its own.

CAR FERRY DRIVEN ON THE ROCKS

P. M. CAR FERRY STRANDS AT NORTH POINT, NEAR MILWAUKEE AND IS IN SERIOUS DANGER.

TERRIFIC GALE RAGES ON LAKE MICHIGAN.

Million Dollar Loss Feared If Vessel Goes to Pieces—Thirty-three Cars on Board.

Pere Marquette Transport No. 20 carrying 33 cars of merchandise is fast on the rocks of North Point, where she was driven in a gale, early Sunday morning. Efforts of three tugs and Pere Marquette steamer No. 19 to release the stranded boat have proved unavailing. The steamer is in six feet of water and her hold is full to that depth, although the pumps are working.

It was feared at first the steamer would be a total loss with her cargo amounting to nearly \$1,000,000, but a change in the wind makes it probable that the ferry will be saved, but badly damaged. The steamer was lost in the fog which settled over Lake Michigan early Sunday morning, and grounded on the rocky North Point shoals while trying to find the entrance to Milwaukee harbor. The steamer lost one of the twin screws and it was impossible to maneuver her to keep her from being driven high on the reefs.

Whipped around by the breakers, the craft soon assumed a position parallel with the shore. The boat was beached head on. Captain Ingarsoll of the life saving crew was immediately notified and the crew went out in a surf boat.

"I am going to stay around this men can do any thing," Captain Ingarsoll is reported to have said, when he promised the use of the surf boat to take them off. To a man, the crew of the ferry voted to remain with the captain.

Another Echo of the Glazier Failure. Another echo of the Glazier Chicago bank failure was heard when the supreme court, in an opinion, received a decision of Judge West of the Ingham county circuit court. As a result the state will have to protect along different lines than previously contemplated in collecting a claim of \$4,000 from the Title Guaranty & Surety Co., one of the surety companies who were on the personal bond of Mr. Glazier.

At the outset of the case, the state, through the attorney general, sued Glazier and the Title Guaranty & Surety Co. to collect \$150,000, the original amount the company owed on Glazier's bond. This amount has since been reduced owing to discounts paid the state from the defunct bank.

Templars Honor Dead Commander. Knights Templar who knew and respected the late Rt. Eminent Sir James Finlayson, past commander of the grand commandery, Knights Templar of Michigan, were present in large numbers at the memorial service for him, held in Detroit in the Masonic temple. Beside the speakers, the two sons of Mr. Finlayson, Rt. Eminent Sir Edward Finlayson, eminent Commander of Detroit Commandery, Eminent Sir Robert H. Osborn, province of that body, and other Sir Knights of the order were seated on the platform.

Too Many Country Churches. The country church is decaying, Fenelon L. Butterfield told the members of the Adcroft club in Detroit. He gave as reason that there are too many country churches; that they will not work together, thereby confusing the minds of the young; that the clergy are poorly paid, and that the denominational prejudice is too strong.

Michigan Wheat Market Falls Off. During November 356,000 bushels of wheat were marketed in Michigan according to the crop report issued. The estimated total number of bushels of wheat marketed in the four months, August to November, is 6,000,000 bushels. The total number of bushels yet remaining in the possession of the growers is estimated at 5,114,000. It is the prevailing opinion of the crop correspondents that wheat is not in as good condition as a year ago.

The Detroit board of health has entered samples of milk distributed at the milk exhibit being held in the Michigan State fair.

Judge Prescott has closed the estate of Albert Hilton, of Muskegon, who died two years ago, leaving \$25,000. The court has succeeded in locating six brothers and five sisters of the deceased.

A Grand Rapids passenger train on the Grand River Valley road, a branch of the Michigan Central, crashed into an open switch at Rives Junction and turned over. Both the engineer and fireman jumped. No one was injured, but the passengers were shaken up.

The Houghton fire department celebrated Dec. 12, the fifth anniversary of the organization of the Conventional fire company, the title of the department until a few days ago. The guest of honor was Thomas J. Brown, of Washington, D.C., first chief of the department, the title at that time being foreman.

Thomas A. Edison called at the White House and met President Taft for the first time. "I had never seen the president, and wanted to shake hands with him," said the inventor, as he went away.

EX-CON. SMITH'S FUNERAL

Many Out of Town Friends Present at Services for Ex-Congressman.

The funeral of ex-Congressman Henry C. Smith was held from 10 to 11 o'clock at the residence of his wife, Mrs. Smith, at 4418 Cass street, because of the illness of Mrs. Smith. The services were largely attended, many out of town people, including some members of the state bar, being present. The services were conducted by Rev. C. H. Channer, of Grand Rapids, and Dr. McCarroll, of Detroit.

Among the many floral offerings was one from the congressional committee. The members of the local bar, of which the deceased was a member, attended in a body.

Farmers Reject Woman's Suffrage. That the farmers of Michigan may take a hand in demanding woman suffrage in this state was turned down when a resolution to that effect was introduced to the Michigan Association of Farmers' clubs, which convened for the annual meeting. The question was referred to the committee on temperance. Senator Dickinson will appear before the association in the interest of the Anti-Saloon league.

Other resolutions ask that the governor shall permit the farmers' organizations in this state to assist him in an appointment of a commission of agriculture. A demand is also made for an investigation into the high cost of farm machinery. These matters will all come up for later discussion and consideration.

Uncle Sam Not Ready for War. In his annual report to the president, Secretary of War Stimson declared that the contingency of war with a first-class power would find the army of the United States practically unprepared.

He attributed this largely to the fact that the army was "scattered over the country" in too many posts, and to a lack of reserves. The army on the peace footing habitually maintained, with miniature companies and troops, he characterized as inadequate for any serious war service.

Asks for Grand Jury. The officers of the Holland City Gas Company addressed a formal communication to Circuit Judge Padgham at Allegan, asking him to call a grand jury for the purpose of investigating rumors of bribery current here during the recent special election in which the company failed to get concessions to its franchise.

The petition is asked on several counts and includes the alleged soliciting of bribes by city officials.

STATE BRIEFS.

The Men and Religion Forward Movement was inaugurated in Saginaw with a banquet in the Masonic temple.

Frank Van Leuven of Newaygo, undertaker, has been appointed local health officer, at the munificent salary of \$12 a year.

The board of trade of Traverse City has finally succeeded, after a long fight, in obtaining better postal service in and out of the city.

Gov. Osborn will speak in Port Huron Friday evening, Dec. 15, at which time he will be tendered a banquet by the Bankers' club.

Mrs. Henry Windsor of Rapid River shot a deer weighing 250 pounds at 150 yards. The feat is unequalled in hunting annals around Manistique.

Rev. Arthur H. Lord of Saint Ste. Marie has been appointed chaplain of the Third regiment, M. A. G. S., succeeding Rev. C. H. Hanks, Owasco, retired.

Saginaw county supervisors are raising property values to close the gap between the state's assessment of \$100,000,000 and the supervisors' figures of \$99,000,000.

John D. Ryan, president of the Amalgamated Copper Co., has donated \$1,000 towards a new Catholic church at Quincy Hill, near Hancock, where he used to play as a boy.

Jeffery women of Saginaw working with the men of the churches have been divided into groups which are investigating conditions by which the morality of Saginaw can be raised.

Dr. Crook, the explorer, has completed a lecture tour of Michigan. He stated the time is not far distant when Peary will be repudiated and the honor for the discovery will revert to him.

Irene Burk, 14, of Menominee, was bitten on the wrist by a dog suffering from rabies, when she took off its muzzle in order to feed it. The girl was taken to Ann Arbor for treatment.

Secretary John L. Gibson will visit Indiana, Ohio and Illinois this winter in the interest of the Western Michigan development bureau, in the extension of the work along the lines of special advertising.

Judge Clink at Muskegon sentenced Edward Johnson, 19, to Whitehall, to serve from five to 10 years in the state penitentiary for a statutory charge. The court recommended 10 years.

Manager Wallace of the Michigan Sugar company states that a large tract of land has been purchased by the company in the Thumb district near Pigeon. The company intends to put up a large factory.

Because her husband refused to stop playing the phonograph when she requested it Mrs. Albert Grandall of Petoskey attempted to end her life by drinking creosote. She will recover.

Mrs. Mary Ten Eyck, 72, of Pontiac, widow of the late Judge Junius Ten Eyck, and the first white child born in Branton township, died Tuesday afternoon, following several months' illness. Mr. and Mrs. Ten Eyck resided in Branton township nearly all their lives. Mr. Ten Eyck served Oakland county as probate judge for a number of years.

The Copper Range Consolidated Co., which paid \$3.50 per share in dividends this year, proposes to go on a \$2 per year per share basis in future. The company has paid over \$12,000,000 to its stockholders in dividends.

A warrant was issued for David Goldsmith, a Port Huron merchant, charging him with violating the state labor law in that he is alleged to have employed a woman more than 10 hours in one day. The warrant was issued on a complaint of Emilie, a state labor agent, for the state labor department, who is investigating the labor conditions in this city.

"The Only Way" to Kansas City and the Great West

is via the

CHICAGO & ALTON

"The Hummer" Leaves Chicago 6:30 P. M. Arrives Kansas City 8:00 A. M.

"The Nightingale" Leaves Chicago 10:15 P. M. Arrives Kansas City 1:15 A. M.

All important trains from Michigan arrive in Chicago on time for one of these trains.

Daily thru sleeping car line to Hot Springs and San Antonio via the Alton's famous double track line to St. Louis.

For further information, address WALTER C. MUELLER, Traveling Pass. Agt. 425 Ford Building, Detroit, Mich.

The Farmer's Son's Great Opportunity

Why wait for the old farm to become your inheritance? Begin now to prepare for the future. Secure a good education and a good job. The Farmer's Son's Great Opportunity is the only way to success.

Now's the Time not a year from now, when land will be high and money scarce, you will need the money you have now. The Farmer's Son's Great Opportunity is the only way to success.

Free Homesteads of 100 acres or more. Free title. No money down. No interest. No taxes. The Farmer's Son's Great Opportunity is the only way to success.

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The Bethlehem of Today

Even today, very much as at the time of the Saviors birth, the keepers of the flocks of sheep and goats sit silently and contentedly about in the fields much as they were doing when, more than nineteen hundred years ago, the heavenly messenger appeared to announce to them the fact that the place of the birth of the Savior and the star appeared bright in the heavens to guide them to the sacred spot.

Neither place nor people have undergone any startling change since the Virgin Mary laid the infant Jesus to rest in the manger of the stable in which, owing to the overcrowded condition of the khan or rural inn, they had been compelled to find lodging. The conditions under which they were forced to content themselves with such meager accommodations are repeated almost each year, with the re-

turn of the Christmas season. That the great Convent of the Nativity and other religious edifices, built to commemorate the commencement of the humble little place, of the earthly life of the son of God, had not at the time been erected, we need hardly state, but the style of buildings has changed but little since the Saviors time, and in all probability some of the substantial stone structures that line its narrow, tiny thoroughfares today were already standing there at the commencement of the Christian era.

The Bethlehem of today may be larger and may contain perhaps a few buildings of more modern construction than at the time of the birth of the Savior, but to all intents and purposes it is the Bethlehem of Jesus' infancy. It requires no great stretch of the imagination to picture it again with the actors in the event of nineteen hundred years ago, while the associations impart to the ceremonies, conducted in connection with its celebration a solemnity and a sentiment that is peculiarly its own.

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For Instance

Post Toasties

The Memory Lingers

Grocer says because they are

GOOD

It Means Health For the Child

The careful mother, who watches closely the physical peculiarities of her children, will soon discover that the most important thing in connection with a child's constant good health is to keep the bowels regularly open. Stagnant bowels will be followed by loss of appetite, restlessness during sleep, irritability and a dozen and one similar evidences of physical disorder.

At the first sign of such disorder give the child a teaspoonful of Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin at night on retiring and repeat the dose the following night if necessary—more than that will scarcely be needed. You will find that the child will recover its accustomed good spirits at once and will eat and sleep normally. This remedy is a vast improvement over salts, cathartics, laxative waters and similar things, which are altogether too powerful for children. The home of Mrs. L. Grunwald, 18 Perkins St., Detroit, Mich., and Mrs. J. P. McEllen, Piquette, Mich., are always supplied with Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin and with them, as with thousands of others, there is no substitute for this grand laxative. It is really more than a laxative, for it contains superior tonic properties which help to tone and strengthen the stomach, liver and bowels so that after a brief use of it all laxatives can be dispensed with and nature will do its own work. Anyone wishing to make a trial of this remedy before buying it in the regular way of a druggist at fifty cents or one dollar a large bottle (family size) can have a sample bottle sent to the home free of charge by simply addressing Dr. W. D. Caldwell, 201 N. 1st St., St. Paul, Mont., Ill. Your name and address on a postal card will do.

Husband Was Willing

The Scot has no monopoly of domestic felicity, as many a piquant paragraph bears witness. The other day an old farmer and his wife were "do" in the sights of a provincial town, and, among other places they visited a panorama of South Africa.

The views were extremely interesting, and the couple were enjoying themselves to the full. As scene after scene passed, the woman's enthusiasm increased, and at length, turning to her husband, she exclaimed:

"Oh, Sandy, this is really splendid. I could just sit here all my days."

"All well, Jennie, woman," replied Sandy, to the mirth of those sitting near. "Just sit you still there; I'll not grudge the experience."

Kidney Trouble Is Very Deceptive

Few Realize They're Affected Till Danger Point Is Reached—Dr. Derby's Kidney Pills Work Wonders—Sample Free!

Kidney disease is much more common than most people imagine. Many sufferers do not know what's ailing them until the trouble becomes serious. Some trifling action may run down the bowels, drop or Dr. Derby's Kidney Pills, there's nothing wrong with your kidneys.

Usually the most noticeable symptoms which first appear are far from the seat of the trouble, and the sufferer mistakes the nature of his ailment. Dull headaches or nervousness, for instance, are never thinks of as signs of diseased kidneys.

Even the aching back and sides, rheumatism, pains or twitching in groins or limbs, sore, inflamed muscles, he may consider indications of some other trouble. Unusually colored or cloudy urine, too frequent or scanty urination, burning sensation, are of course readily recognized as symptoms of such disorders.

Because of the deceptive and dangerous character of these ailments, if you suspect your kidneys are diseased, do not wait until beginning treatment. The best possible remedy for you is Dr. Derby's Kidney Pills. They are entirely safe and act in two ways: cleanse the clogged kidneys of their poisonous impurities, strengthen them so they perform their duties normally, naturally. There's no other way to really cure kidney derangements, resultant bladder troubles and rheumatism and permanently banish the painful aches and pains.

Get a package of these marvelous Dr. Derby's Kidney Pills at once. 25c and 50c packages. If you want to try them first ask your druggist for a free sample package, or same will be sent direct by Dr. Derby Medicine Co., Eaten Rapids, Mich.

A Born Quibbler

"Didn't I tell you not to shoot any quail on this place?" "Yassah," replied Uncle Rabberry. "You done told me an' I done heard you. Dis ain't no quail. Dis is a partridge."

It isn't until a man reaches the age of discretion that he discovers he can have a good time without suffering for it the next morning.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Cures all blood humors, all eruptions, clears the complexion, creates an appetite, aids digestion, relieves that tired feeling, gives vigor and vim. Get it today in usual liquid form or chocolate tablets called Sarsatables.

The Army of Constipation

Is Growing Smaller Every Day. CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS are responsible for not only give relief, they permanently cure Constipation. Millions of men and women suffer from Constipation, Sick Headache, Sallow Skin, SMALL PILE, SMALL DOSE, SMALL PRICE. Genuine must bear Signature.

Remedy for Eye Sore Eyes

ECONOMICAL WINTERING OF CATTLE

By R. S. SHAW, Dean of Agriculture, Michigan Agricultural College



A Good Bunch of Feeder Steers.

The Michigan farmer is confronted by a serious situation as regards the wintering of his cattle. Under the term farmer in this connection we include more particularly those engaged in general farming rather than the dairy or beef producing specialist. The general farmer is not so apt to prepare for emergencies as the specialist. Following the severe drought of the past season there is a marked shortage of farm feeds accompanied by unusually high prices for the same. Under these conditions it is a common practice for the farmer to dispose of most of his cattle at a sacrifice rather than purchase the necessary high-priced commercial feeds. Where this is done a long period usually elapses before the farm is restocked.

A great deal can be accomplished in the economical wintering of dry cows, stockers, and even young growing animals if the coarser, less valuable farm crops are properly prepared and utilized. There is much feeding value in the straw of such crops as oats, wheat, barley, and hulls, corn stalks, etc. If properly utilized, but very undesirable results have occurred in cases where some one or two of these feeds alone have been used throughout the entire season without special preparation or combination with other feeds as in the case of rye straw and corn stalks. A woody, difficultly digestible combination such as these two feeds contains too great an excess of dry woody fiber which after long continued use is apt to lead to serious digestive troubles. On the other hand, however, if these feeds are made more palatable and supplemented by small quantities of other feeds good results may be secured. English and Scotch feeders use straw with roots and some meal for dairy cows and beef cattle. Much can be done to make coarser feeds more palatable, but the American farmer objects to the expense of putting hay, straw, corn stalks, etc., through the cutting box, moistening the same and mixing a little meal with it. On the other hand, the farmers' time is not generally fully occupied.

BUSINESS TRAINING for COUNTRY BOYS AND GIRLS

By PROF. W. A. MCKEEVER From Lecture Given at Roped-Up Institute, 1911

In the rush of carrying on the work of the farm and farm home, the country boy and girl are very likely to suffer in respect to their business training. The boy and girl are given a small amount of money on a small interest in the business of the farm or home, or a suitable wage for the work performed. Thus some specific lessons in economic thrift may be inculcated. There is here again great need of the authorities work out a plan of procedure. But while we are waiting for them to do so we may resort to a few methods that have proved very helpful in imparting the instruction here considered essential. First of all, it is desirable that the boy and girl be made familiar with the details of the farm business. The father should take his son into his confidence and familiarize him with practically every business deal, the price paid and the price received; the methods of buying at an advantage and of selling at a profit; the methods of keeping the farm accounts and of re-investing the money returns—all these and many other such may be profitably revealed to the understanding of the growing boy. Moreover, his business training will be greatly aided if he be directed in conducting on a small scale actual business transactions of his own. In addition he may be given repeated by the task of taking charge of the minor affairs of shopping, marketing, and the like. Country youths are proverbially crude in their business methods, and that chiefly for want of practice.

A similar sort of business transaction may and should be given the girl growing up in the farm home. Let it be seen to that she have some small property, or money, or at least a reasonable income of her own, and that she be taught by slow degrees how to make a reasonable use of this income in the management of her personal affairs. Above all things else, be certain that she be given as much for what work she performs as would have to be paid for such performance by an ordinary employee. Then, add to this a small amount for the sake of the good will and affectionate regard that naturally exists between parents and daughter. Every step in the business training of the young woman will consist in giving her small practice in the affairs which relate to the life of a woman in the home. One of the great elements of sterling character of the homemaker is that of being able to manage economically the home affairs. The wife is importantly a servant and disburser, and not a producer of the family income. But since she has no intuitive knowledge of how this important work is best carried on, such knowledge can come to her only as the result of specific discipline. Once instructed to all growing girls the proper amount and kind of training in the management of

pled in the winter and the extra work is more than justified when hay is worth \$20 per ton, concentrates \$25 to \$30 and straw \$5 to \$10.

The following plan was employed one winter on our home farm when feeds were scarce and high priced. The feeds available were limited quantities of wheat, oat, barley and pea straw, a goodly quantity of corn fodder and roots and a very limited amount of grain. All coarse fodder was run through the cutting box dropping into a feed room 18 feet square and nine feet high, as follows: A small load of corn fodder would be cut first and spread on the floor followed by a thin layer of pulped roots followed by a small load of cut straw and then a thin layer of meal on which was put a layer of hay. These layers were then moistened with water supplied by a hose from the barn tank. Succeeding layers were placed upon these in order till the feed room was filled. This feed was consumed with great relish and even more so after it had begun to heat a little. There was absolutely no waste of feed and the cattle, numbering about 60 head old and young, came out in good shape in the spring. It required two half-days per week to prepare the feed, the power being procured from an old-fashioned sweep power, now replaced by the more convenient steam or gas engines. The latter used was sawdust procured from a nearby mill. The extra labor involved in this preparing the feed was justified in utilizing every available rough scrap as market quotations were running about the prices here before given.

Ordinarily the farmer does not have the variety of rough feeds used in the illustration. Every farmer with livestock to winter over should have silage or roots, or even both. There are very few farmers who do not have time in winter to prepare the coarse crop products and render them more palatable and nourishing for their stock. Those caught by the serious situation of the present season should not in the future neglect to provide succulence to be fed with the straw and corn stalks as an emergency ration.

All the details in the business side of the household and you have laid one of the foundation stones for a substantial moral character and for thrift and happiness and contentment in one of the homes of the future.

SIZE OF POULTRY PEN.

The size of pen depends entirely upon the purpose for which it is to be used. The smaller the flock the greater the production that can be expected from each individual and the greater the labor and expense incurred. For special mating, pens to accommodate 8 to 20 birds fulfill the requirements, while for laying pens to accommodate 50 are more economical, although as many as 800 to 1,000 are sometimes kept in one pen, a system not to be practiced by the poultry man until he thoroughly understands the business. While no definite rule can be made relative to floor space per bird, because it depends upon the attention and care exercised, yet in general four to five square feet of floor space is considered a safe estimate of the amount required under ordinary conditions.

Provisions should be made for a dust bath in every pen, for the problem of dealing with lice is greatly reduced by its presence. The objection that it creates dust in the house is greatly overcome by its beneficial features and a closed bath with a special window in the south side and accessible by a small opening can be easily constructed, which has an additional advantage in that it is comparatively free from the danger of any dirt or litter accumulating from the pen. The road dust, finely sifted coal ashes, etc., are very desirable materials for the dust bath, and the addition of lime, kerosene dust and patent preparations tend to make it more effective.

Poultry Food in Winter.

Every month during the winter season the poultry building should be well supplied with clean straw, leaves or litter of some kind, into which the feed is thrown in the morning to keep the hens busy. Plenty of succulent food should be supplied during winter months, to take the place of grass. Potato peels, cabbage roots, celery tops, and such things are relished by hens and keep the flock healthy. In summer hens pick up quantities of insects and worms and this form of food must be supplied in winter by scraps of meat, cut bone, etc.

Customers and Farmers.

It is much more pleasant to market produce that can always be taken to regular customers who are expecting it, and who appreciate getting goods of known quality. City customers are always willing to give good cash prices because they know produce is measured and given in full weight and measure. There should be regular market places and days in small towns, as well as cities, where farmers and townpeople can expect to meet and trade.

The National Grange

Conducted by Charles M. Gardner, Editor of the National Grange, Westfield, Mass.

FARMERS AND RECIPROCITY

Much Speculation as to What Will Be the Political Effect of Measure's Defeat.

Since the defeat of Canadian reciprocity by the negative vote of Canada itself, there has been much speculation as to the political effect upon the farmers who fought reciprocity so hard. How far the agricultural people are going to remember the reciprocity episode and to what degree it will affect President Taft's chances next fall constitutes a question to which the politicians are giving devoted study.

The Republican managers are loath to opportunity to assert that the farmers will soon forget all about it and that a year hence they will be voting the Republican ticket the same as ever. However this may be, there are some present indications which point very decidedly the other way and which afford scanty comfort to those who are trying to believe that the farmers are going to vote for President Taft again, the same as if nothing had happened. One has only to read the agricultural press, to note the addresses at farmers' gatherings and grange meetings to realize the almost positive certainty that the farmer vote of the country is lost to President Taft forever, and can never be regained, no matter how many explanations or apologies are attempted.

One of the strongest opponents of Canadian reciprocity has been the National Grange Monthly, which is the official newspaper of the Grange, with its more than 800,000 members, scattered over thirty states. In its issue since the Canadian defeat, this paper has this significant editorial analysis of the effects of the reciprocity incident. Under the title "Just Retribution," the following is said:

"The defeat of Canadian reciprocity is more than the mere overthrow of that iniquitous measure, which proposed to hang a deadly millstone around the neck of every farmer in the land, and putting him at a disadvantage in every transaction in which he should thereafter have engaged. The farmer has been saved, but speedily and deserved retribution also comes to those who had so basely betrayed him."

"It is impossible that such an overwhelming defeat of the Taft-Laurier deal as has been administered could do otherwise than carry down to like defeat its originators and promoters. The crushing overthrow of Premier Laurier in Canada is as significant as it is deserved, and is one of the right fruits of the whole transaction. That a similar speedy and just retribution is coming on this side of the line is as apparent as the rising of the sun, and it will be as abundantly deserved as the defeat of Laurier. The people of the United States have their eyes wide open and there is no question of the result."

Since it is to close the incident by quoting a paragraph from this issue one month ago, when the fate of reciprocity was still in doubt; for it describes today's situation beyond the peradventure of question: "If the result of the Canadian elections should be the defeat of the trade agreement which Taft and Laurier negotiated in recent months, against the best judgment of the most intelligent statesmen in both countries, it will afford the most humiliating spectacle in which any American president has ever been placed, after the outrageous methods that forced the ratification of the treaty in this country."

Pennsylvania State Grange. The annual session of the Pennsylvania State Grange is to be held in Scranton this year and the date is December 12th. The session will be well attended, probably the largest in the history of the order. The Pennsylvania State Grange is noted for its active participation in public affairs, which gives additional interest to its annual state session, where many live questions are thoroughly discussed and a positive Grange policy is deemed to be followed the coming year. The fact that State Master W. T. Creasey has been for sixteen years a member of the Pennsylvania legislature and one of the hardest fighters there against graft and corruption has done much to identify the State Grange with many public questions. In fact there is no state where Grange participation in public affairs has been more pronounced than in Pennsylvania. There are more than 60,000 members of the Grange in Pennsylvania, which naturally gives the organization much influence in support of such policies as it attempts to carry through.

Signing With a Cross.

Persons who cannot write their names are required to use as a substitute the sign of the cross (X). Anciently kings and nobles used the same sign, but not ignorantly. It was used by those who could not write as well as by those who could not as a symbol that the person making it pledged himself by his Christian faith to the truth of the matter to which he affixed the cross. Hence, although the sign is now used by those who cannot write, they are still said to sign.

Promotes Efficiency.

Great forward steps are being taken this fall in hundreds of Granges. The organization of ladies' grange staffs, as a valuable addition to the regular work of the order, invariably increases interest and promotes efficiency.



Corner in Great Record Keeper's Office, K. O. T. M. M.

The enormous task of transferring 65,000 members of Class 1 is taxing the energies of the Great Camp officers of the Knights of the Modern Maccabees in their headquarters in Port Huron. Every inch of available room in the magnificent temple, including even the private offices, is utilized. More than 85 extra employees have been engaged in this new work of receiving reports and making out the certificates. Notwithstanding every effort is being made to rush matters the office force is behind several days in their work and are able to complete only about 1,400 per day. The great bulk of transfers are taken by men between 32 and 52 years of age, while the plans selected are Plans D, G and C in their order of popularity.

The above is a picture of one of the rooms in the department of the Great Record Keeper. The picture at the left is A. M. Slay, Great Record Keeper, in the middle is George S. Lovelace, Great Commander, while Albert Blenau, Great Medical Examiner, is on the extreme right.

SOME CRUEL AND UNUSUAL

Double Penalty Threatened for Those Who Dared to Interfere With the Wires.

Return has been laughing over the possibility of a notice that has been placed by the public works department on some of the electric wire posts on the road to Okeana, in New Zealand.

Some time ago a Maori youth, who seemed to have a misguided taste for experimenting, threw a long piece of cable over the electric wires that run to Okeana from the power station at the Okeana Falls.

The town was at once plunged in darkness for two or three hours until the mischief had been located.

The dusky and youthful experimenter was captured in the act and fined for his scientific enthusiasm, and the department put up this notice:

"Any person climbing the electric light poles or damaging the insulators are liable to a fine of \$10 and a penalty of \$10."

The Difference.

"John A. Laurier," said a Chicago lawyer, in a eulogy of the late Supreme Court Justice, "had a way of pointing an observation with a story. Once he wanted to rebuke a man for exaggeration, so he said he was as big as a Pittsburgh millionaire who was being interviewed by a New York reporter."

"Where, sir, were you born?" the reporter, as he sharpened his pencil, asked.

"I was born in Pittsburgh," said the millionaire.

"And when did you first see the light of day?"

"When I was nine," the millionaire replied. "My people then moved to Philadelphia."

IT IS CRIMINAL TO NEGLECT THE SKIN AND HAIR

Think of the suffering entailed by neglected skin troubles—mental because of disfigurement, physical because of pain. Think of the pleasure of a clear skin, soft, white, hands, and good hair. These blessings, so essential to happiness and even success in life, are often only a matter of a little thoughtful care in the selection of effective remedial agents. Cuticura Soap and Ointment do so much for poor complexions, red, rough hands, and dry, thin and falling hair, and cost so little, that it is almost criminal not to use them. Although Cuticura Soap and Ointment are sold everywhere, a postal to "Cuticura," Dept. 21, Boston, will secure a liberal sample of each, with 32-page booklet on skin and scalp treatment.

By Way of Excuse.

Yankeeism has some singular ideas. "What, for instance?" "Well, he says it is meant to profit by other people's experience after they've been at all the trouble and expense of collecting it."

Important to Mothers. Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Watson*. In Use For Over 30 Years. Children Cry for Fletcher's Castoria.

When you hear two men talking so loudly that they can be heard in the next block, they are talking about something they know nothing about.

Many people have receding gums. Rub Hamlin's Wizard Oil on gums and stop the decay, check the disease germs with a mouth wash of a few drops to a spoonful of water.

We are apt to speak of a man as being lucky when he has succeeded where we have failed.

You have a corking good memory if you don't tell the same story to the same crowd twice.—Acheson Globe.

Dr. Pierce's Peppermint, small sugar-coated, easy to take as candy, regulars and invigorates stomach, liver and bowels and cures constipation.

And a kiss in the dark is one kind of an electric spark.

Mrs. Whitcomb's Soothing Syrup for Children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic, etc. A household necessity.

Some men who marry in haste have plenty of time to pay alimony.

Question for Question.

"I shall discharge our duties," said Mr. Cumrox.

"What's the trouble?" "He doesn't show me proper deference. When I am paying a man libelously, I consider it his duty to laugh at my jokes."

"And won't he?" "I don't think he can. He's an English butler. When in a spirit of good nature and condescending badinage I said to him, 'Hawkins, can you tell me which came first, the chicken or the egg?' he said, 'which did you order first, sir?'"

THICK, SWOLLEN GLANDS

That makes a man's throat sore and hoarse, can be relieved with **ABSORBINE**.

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